FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 JANUARY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

A South Korean Freighter was hit by a missile off the Iranian coast early on 8 January, Lloyds of London reported in a statement cited by AFP. Earlier, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio announced that the Iraqi Air Force hit two maritime targets near Khark Island on 7 January. Monitored Iranian media did not mention these Iraqi attacks, but sources in Manama confirmed that one vessel had been hit by a missile, according to AFP.

On land, a UN delegation arrived in the Iranian town of Susangerd to inspect the results of Iraq's "savage" air attacks on Iranian villages, Tehran radio reported.

Lebanon

Al-Naqurah Talks — After analyzing Lebanon's position in the 7 January talks the Israeli defense establishment decided not to send its delegation to Al-Naqurah on 10 January, Jerusalem radio announced. The Israeli Cabinet will meet on 9 January to consider Israel's future moves, the radio added. Earlier, *THE JERUSALEM POST* said the talks had reached "stalemate" and IDF radio predicted that only a substantive change in the Lebanese stance will bring Israel back to the talks. . The Lebanese had stipulated that the Israelis should submit a program for their total withdrawal before any discussion of UNIFIL's deployment, according to a Lebanese military spokesman cited by Beirut radio. If and when the Israelis submit a withdrawal program and UNIFIL's role is discussed, Lebanon will approve UNIFIL's expansion from 5,000 to 30,000 troops and its deployment in all of southern Lebanon up to the Israeli border, the spokesman added.

Beirut Security — Gunmen kidnapped the American director of the Catholic Relief Bureau in Beirut on 8 January, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. Meanwhile, the Swiss charge d'affaires who was kidnapped on 3 January has been released, AFP reported.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Israeli and Egyptian representatives will meet in Beersheba next week to prepare the negotiations on the stationing of UN forces in the disputed Tabah area, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres disclosed in remarks reported by ITIM. Peres also noted that he was "favorably surprised" by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's recently expressed wish for dialogue and cooperation with the Israeli prime minister.

Jordan

The conclusion of the air defense system deal with the Soviet Union, which will begin early this year, arises from King Husayn's concern for raising the standard of Jordan's defense capability, *AL-DUSTUR* stressed. The deal with the Soviet Union affirms Jordan's ability to establish good relations with all countries and shows that countries with limited resources can reject the "policy of extortion" used against them through arms, food, and other fields, the paper asserted. Recalling the U.S. retraction of its commitment to supply Stinger missiles to Jordan due to "Zionist pressure and blackmail in Congress," *AL-DUSTUR* expressed appreciation for the Soviet Union's affirmative response to Jordan's defense needs.

PLO

According to Amman's *Al-DUSTUR*, PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim denied the discovery of a plot to assassinate him at Karachi Airport on 29 December, as had been reported in Jerusalem's *AL-SHA'B*.

Afghanistan

The DRA delivered a strong protest to Pakistan over alleged ongoing "violations and provocations against the DRA borders," specifically charging that on 28 December a 250-strong group that included 50 Pakistani militiamen entered Paktia Province and fired on a village and a border post, Kabul radio reported. If such interventions are not stopped, DRA security forces will be obliged to take "firm and similar action," the DRA warned. Pakistan also lodged a strong protest, reported by Karachi radio, against an air violation by four Afghan planes into the Chitral District on 7 December.

Meanwhile, in an interview with BAKHTAR cited by Kabul Radio, a DRA Government spokesman charged that at the recent ICO meeting in Sanaa, Arab "agents" of imperialist and Zionist powers diverted attention from vital Muslim issues by raising the Afghan question.

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PLO Radio Reacts to Al-Asad Ba'th Congress Speech
JN061922 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1628 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Political editor's dispatch]

[Text] Syria will lead the Palestinian people's struggle to achieve their complete rights; all of Syria's potential is at the Palestine question's disposal; Syria will continue to be a real supporter of those who seek liberation; the dictum of independent Palestinian decisionmaking is an innovation and a plot; when have they adopted a national decision, and when have we prevented them from adopting such a decision? All our resources are devoted to the sake of Palestine; we will share the good and bad days with the Palestinian strugglers; we are confident that those cannot represent the Palestinian people.

Brothers, these are some of the headlines of the irritated reply that came in Hafiz al-Asad's address to the eighth congress of his party yesterday. Observers considered his speech a reply to brother leader Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat's] speech at martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi's funeral, in which he spoke about the crime that the Zionist Arabs have carried out. These Zionist Arabs are represented by the Damascus rulers.

If we want to reply to these headlines, we must first touch on facts that the Syrian Arab people know better than the Palestinian people. It is fair to recall these facts. Every Syrian and Palestinian knows that Hafiz al-Asad's regime's objective is to control the Palestinian and Syrian peoples' destinies. Our people's bitter experiences with this regime are of no secret to anyone, beginning with 1971 until Al-Asad's speech yesterday. We do not want to repeat these experiences because they all prove Al-Asad's determination to control the Palestinians, their leadership, and their independent decisionmaking, which he yesterday called an innovation.

Al-Asad issued his new and old decree yesterday. He said Syria will lead the Palestinian people's struggle to achieve their complete rights.

This is too much, Hafiz al-Asad. Do you mean that the Palestinian people will allow you to lead them to achieve their rights through relinquishing their leadership, history, and rights because you think that they do not know how to struggle and do not know the meaning of struggle?

We have begged you more than once through the Palestinian Arab people's symbol and leader Abu 'Ammar, who told you directly that Palestine is southern Syria. We believe that our leader's statements are clear to you, Mr President. We also believe that you agree with us that this is a national decision. However, you did not implement this decision. Despite this, you asked yesterday: When have they adopted a national decision and when did we prevent such a decision from being adopted.

Who prevented us from fighting in the Golan Heights? Let us put the Golan Heights aside because they are Syrian, and not Palestinian, territory despite your frequent talk about the pan-Arabism of the decision. Who prevented us from staying in Al-Biqa' to confront the Zionist occupation forces? Who prevented the logistical and volunteer fighters, who assembled in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' during the Beirut siege, from supporting their Lebanese and Palestinian brothers who were besieged in 1982?

Despite all this, he talks about mice. He said he who was born a mouse will continue to be a mouse. He has forgotten the slogan of the hero Lebanese people when they protested Al-Asad's interference in Lebanon in 1967. This slogan spoke about Al-Asad, a lion in Lebanon and a mouse in the Golan Heights. The Lebanese people have said it with the spontaneity of the oppressed and coerced people.

Who collaborated with the Zionists in fighting the Palestinian revolution, during the Al-Biqa' battles and Tripoli's dual-siege, in trying to fragment the Palestinian arena, and in dealing with assassinations? We do not want to go in detail. We support the slogans raised by the Syrian president in his speech before the eighth regional congress of his party — the slogans that all the country's potential is at the disposal of the Palestinian cause, that Syria will remain a real supporter of anybody seeking liberation, all our dear things are for the sake of Palestine, and we and the strugglers are facing the same destiny through thick and thin. We support all these beautiful slogans. However, we are discussing the possibility of implementing them in the right way and not in the opposite way, as the case is now.

We disagree with His Excellency President al-Asad on two dangerous slogans he raised in his speech.

The first is that Syria leads the Arab Palestinian people's struggle to achieve their complete rights. Your Excellency, we have tried you. One does not travel the wrong road twice. We know struggle, we learned leadership, and our revolution and experience are 20 years old. We do not need lessons in leadership and struggle.

The second slogan says: We are confident that those — he means the PLO's legitimate leadership — cannot represent the Palestinian people. This dangerous slogan was refuted by the Palestinian people themselves in the West Bank and Gaza on all occasions and by the Palestinian people in diaspora, in southern and northern Lebanon, and even in Syria itself when the Palestinian people in Al-Yarmuk camp raised the pictures of Yasir 'Arafat a few days ago asserting their rejection of any alternative organization or the so-called broad national front.

In the attempts of Hafiz al-Asad's regime to split the Palestinian arena, Khalid al-Fahum, who regrettably is considered Palestinian and who is a permanent actor in the Syrian arena, repeated what he used to talk about in every shining appearance; namely, about 242, the Reagan plan, and Camp David. He knows full well the stand of the PLO and its legitimate leadership on these plans. Regrettably, this man has reached this lowest level in front of Al-Asad's eyes as if he were flirting with a nymph.

The Palestinian people with their leadership will continue along their path to achieve their national objectives of liberation, return, and establishing their independent Palestinian state on their national soil despite the barking here and there every now and then. Our path is difficult and long. However, we will achieve our goals with God's will despite all lies and allegations.

'Arafat, Palestinian Officials To Meet in Tunis

JN071720 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Tunis from Jeddah last night following a tour of a number of Arab countries. Our correspondent has learned that Abu 'Ammar will hold several meetings with Palestinian officials in Tunis in order to study Palestinian moves in the coming stage in light of new Palestinian, Arab, and international developments.

Palestinians Meet To Discuss Committee Agenda

JN071728 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The Palestinian side in the Palestinian-Jordanian joint committee to support Palestinian people's steadfastness inside the occupied homeland met under the chairmanship of Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in Amman today. The Palestinian officials discussed the agenda of the committee's meeting which is scheduled to convene tomorrow.

AL-RA'Y on DFLP Membership in Joint Committee

JN080859 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Jan 85 pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman — *AL-RA'Y* has learned that the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] wishes to maintain its membership in the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee for bolstering the steadfastness of kinfolk in the occupied territories.

The DFLP has asked to be represented on this committee by Saji Khalil on a temporary basis until its regular representative, Salih Raf'at, who resides in Damascus, is able to come to Amman.

Well-informed sources say that the PLO has not decided on this issue yet, adding that the PLO will most probably not respond positively to the DFLP request at the present time and will defer a decision until the DFLP makes a decision on the return of its representative to the PLO Executive Committee. It is worth mentioning that in its 17th session in Amman last month, the PNC kept the DFLP seat on the PLO Executive Committee vacant.

Palestinian sources mention that the Palestinian delegation to the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee will most probably comprise the following: Khalil al-Wazir, 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, Muhammad Milhim, Hani al-Hasan, and 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya.

PLO Official Condemns Ethiopian 'Allegations'

JN071751 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Jan (SUNA) — Jamal 'Arafat, PLO representative to Sudan, has asserted that the emigration of Jews from Ethiopia to Sudan is not new. In press statements yesterday, Jamal 'Arafat indicated that opponents aim at fishing in troubled waters and at falsifying facts by their allegations on Sudan.

'Arafat, who was commenting on the Ethiopian allegations, condemned the attempts aimed at tampering with Sudan's potential. He said: The Arab nation's enemies do not want to see Sudan strong. He added: These enemies also do not want any rapprochement among the Arab nation's sons. He said: In order to achieve these objectives, the enemies established Israel as a wedge between the eastern Arab countries and the Arab Maghreb, so as to prevent the survival of a strong Arab empire.

The PLO representative urged the Arab nation to abandon the wounds and tribulations in order to regain Arab unity, so that Egypt can return to its Arab nation and the Arab nation can return to Egypt.

PLO Radio on Airlift

JN072000 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The operation of smuggling Ethiopian Jews to occupied Palestine is not surprising in view of the Arab impotency, which cancels taboos and permits the impermissible. The artificial Zionist entity's worry about the primary pillar of its existence — namely, the human factor — has appeared amid news agency reports about the emigration from Israel. The latest of these is one by the Kuwaiti news agency KUNA. It says that more than 70 Jewish families have left the West Bank settlements in the past 3 months and have emigrated to the United States.

The report adds that a large number of the Jewish families who wish to emigrate are being pressured by the Gush Emunim movement to stay on in the West Bank settlements. The report further states that a number of these families have started selling their property and are preparing to emigrate despite this pressure, and that if the Israeli economic situation deteriorates further, no more than 100 Jewish families will remain in the approximately 250 West Bank settlements.

Amid the stifling economic crisis in the Zionist entity — a crisis which is known to all world and Arab media — and under the shadow of the emigration, which threatens the existence of the Zionist entity, a plot to beef up the Zionist entity with manpower has emerged. This plot comes through Numayri's Islamic regime in Sudan. Although Sudan denied any connivance in transferring thousands of Ethiopian Jews to occupied Palestine and accused Ethiopia and Israel of leveling accusations against it, it said in its denial statement that Sudanese territory is not a prison for refugees who arrive from neighboring states. What logic.

Sudan refuses to let its territory be a prison for the Ethiopian Jewish refugees who arrived in Sudan, but will let them use it as a transit station from which they can leave for occupied Palestine. Sudan is being too considerate. It cares for the sentiments of these Jews from neighboring states, but it does not care for the sentiments of the scattered Palestinian people who are the real owners of the land and whose homeland is being occupied by these Jewish emigrants in order to indulge in suppressing the Palestinians and in placing obstacles in the path of any peaceful solution for the Arab-Zionist conflict.

If Sudan is accusing Ethiopia of concocting this plot, then Sudan and the other Arab states are asked to reveal the facts of this plot. The OAU and the Arab League should investigate this issue, especially since the world media has pointed out the involvement of a number of states and presidents in the issue of the Ethiopian Jews. *THE NEW YORK TIMES* said in a commentary that Moshe Gilbo'a, director of the world Jewish affairs division in the [Israeli] Foreign Ministry, admitted that other organizations and states helped in deporting the Jews from Ethiopia. He added: In due course, we will be honored to reveal the persons and governments which helped to transfer the Ethiopian Jews.

While hoping that Arab Sudan will prove to be outside this plot, we also hope that we are not deceived. We say this because we are living in a time when many Arab regimes consider the blessings of the United States and Israel as a guarantee for maintaining their power. Therefore, they would not hesitate to participate in any plot against their Arab masses and the Palestinian people, who sooner or later will settle scores with all those who plot against them and their cause.

PLO's Muhammad Milhim Denies Assassination Attempt

JN071123 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Jan 85 pp 1, 19

[Text] Amman -- Muhammad Milhim, deported Hebron mayor and PLO Executive Committee member, has denied reports about the discovery of a plot to assassinate him at Karachi Airport. In a statement to *AL-DUSTUR*, Milhim said: No security measures were taken to protect us and no security men or bodyguards accompanied us. He added: Like any ordinary passenger, we took a taxi from Karachi Airport.

Citing sources in Amman, the Jerusalem paper *AL-SHA'B* said yesterday that an assassination attempt against Muhammad Milhim was recently aborted in Pakistan. The paper added that Pakistani authorities recently arrested four persons coming from an Arab capital who had admitted that they planned to assassinate Milhim in Pakistan after his return from Beijing, where he headed a PLO delegation which paid a visit to the PRC. The paper added that the assassination was to take place on 29 December, on the same day that martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi was assassinated.

Fatah's Al-Hasan Views PLO Status, Condition

PM071005 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 28 Dec 84 pp 25-27

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan by 'Adil Malik in London -- date not given]

[Excerpts] *AL-HAWADITH*: During one of the PNC sessions, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] spoke of a plan to bomb and destroy the PNC building from the air and claimed that a Sukhoy plane or other means would be used for that purpose. Do security considerations allow you to discuss this matter now?

Al-Hasan: I personally know nothing about a Sukhoy plane. It seems that these tactical and technological military details are beyond my power of comprehension. I do know for certain, however, that one group managed to move missiles to Amman. One member of that group had a guilty conscience and could not carry out the task assigned to him. So he came to us and told us that the missiles were in such and such a place, that they were to be fired at the PNC venue, and that as a Palestinian, a human being, and an Arab he could not by any standard kill scores or hundreds of the Palestinian people's leaders, including the PNC members, as well as the masses gathered in the hall. The operation was quietly aborted.

AL-HAWADITH: Let us discuss the Palestinian leader, who will always be a symbol of the Palestinian revolution. It is known that Abu 'Ammar has many supporters and opponents, but at the Amman meetings he noticeably emerged as a strong leader with a firm grip on the Palestinian leadership. To what extent can we say that the Palestinian leadership wants 'Arafat to continue to be its chief?

Al-Hasan: The Palestinian command continues to uphold Yasir 'Arafat's leadership. We never contemplated moving 'Arafat from his leading position in the Palestinian struggle or changing him as a symbol of this struggle at this stage, but to say that he has a firm grip on things is quite a different matter. That was not the case in the past, it is not so at present, and it will not be so in the future. Where such cases as the Palestinian question are concerned, nobody, however popular, can claim to have a firm grip because we are not on our land in our own state. We cannot emulate De Gaulle.

We are a revolution in exile. The more popular a leader is the greater his responsibility for developing the leadership machine and course. That is his sole mechanism and through it he tries to live up to the people's aspirations. The minute a Palestinian leader is separated from the executive mechanism -- which in this case is Fatah and its institutions, as well as the PLO and its institutions -- he becomes like someone in a desert and no matter how loudly he speaks he cannot be heard, and no matter how good a marksman he is he will have no target to aim at.

AL-HAWADITH: As far as we know, you are making preparations for Fatah meetings early in the new year. There are rumors about a split within Fatah or, in other words, about an ebb and flow movement. Is that true?

Al-Hasan: That is true. It is ebb and flow as far as understanding the requirements of the new phase and learning the necessary lessons are concerned. That understanding and absorption of lessons should be used in rebuilding Fatah's institutions effectively, which would reflect on the rebuilding of the PLO institutions as well. What is needed now is that the standard of the executive departments or at least the standard of the PLO offices abroad should be improved. These offices are no longer mere information offices. They now have new responsibilities, especially if the joint action with Jordan succeeds and if we restore Arab solidarity at this point.

Fatah's congress should convene as soon as possible. If Fatah is the PLO's backbone, then its reform would mean more PLO reform and effectiveness. These things require discussion and that is where what you call ebb and flow comes in.

AL-HAWADITH: Let us discuss PLO-Syrian relations. How do you assess these relations? Is this a final divorce or a crisis period which may be followed by something else?

Al-Hasan: It is a state of desertion. If we accept that the international aspect of the Palestinian question necessitates that the Palestinian train be fueled by Arab solidarity and the broadest base of international alliances, then we cannot do without any Arab state, let alone a bordering state such as Syria. Because of its present dispute with PLO and Jordan, Syria is now, in practice, outside the framework of the Palestinian cause. It can no longer do anything except use the media and reject. It has lost its ability to be positively effective. We do not accept that role for Syria and we do not think that Syria itself accepts that role. That is why Syria must be brought back to the Jordanian-Palestinian position, which is not a bloc, but a centrifugal point for total Arab solidarity. That way it could regain its positive and leading role in relation to the Palestinian question.

AL-HAWADITH: We began the interview with Amman and we will end it with Amman. Will you be returning as a major force to Amman, including offices, institutions, and so on?

Al-Hasan: We are going back to Amman, but this time with understanding, maturity, and reason and without our old practices in Jordan and Lebanon. Perhaps the temporary absence of some of the knights of revolutionary phrases will help promote more common sense and objectivity and thus enable us to arrange our relations with Jordan and ensure the return of those who are still outside Amman. Many institutions will return to Jordan, but it is not in our interest to send everything back there. We need time to confirm goodwill on all sides. There are some in Amman who view our return with some caution, and there are some Palestinians who view the return with some caution. That caution has to be dispelled.

PLO Representative Interviewed by ANATOLIA

TA051452 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1440 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] Ankara 5/1 (A.A) — Abu Firas, the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Ankara said, "Turkey can take the role of the head in the region."

Abu Firas made the comment in a special interview to ANADOLU AJANSI [ANATOLIA] on the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the PLO.

He pointed out the disunity among the Arab ranks and said the majority of the Palestinian martyrs have been killed by the Arab guns more than by the Israelis.

Abu Firas thanked Turkey for her support to the Palestinian cause and said the meeting held in Fes during the summit between President Kenan Evren and Yasir 'Arafat "created a deep brotherhood and friendship" between the two leaders. "I think Turkey can do a lot in the region. As a brotherly country, brotherly people and influential factor of the region, Turkey can take the role of the head in the region. Historically Turkey was so, historically Turkey is so, historically Turkey should be so. I am very happy to see Turkey becoming close and close to the Islamic world. Turkey has big influence and if she decides to take an influential role in the region, she can play this role," he added.

On a question about the terror camps in Syria against Turkey, Abu Firas pointed out that "it is not their right to be aggressive against their neighbours. Instead of making camps against Turkey, they can make camps against their own enemy, if they consider it an enemy. But unfortunately it seems that they do not consider the Zionist entity as an enemy. Since years we were not allowed to make any military operation from Syria against the enemy (Israel). This is a fact."

Abu Firas said Syria aimed to get PLO under her control to use for her interests and now makes a new cooperation with the U.S. envoy, Richard Murphy.

"Now they prepare for a — Camp Murphy — after the Camp David. But we are determined to fight anyone who tries to use us as an instrument."

On relations between the PLO, Egypt and Jordan, he added:

"PLO has rejected the Camp David not the Egyptian people. There is a big difference between the one who signed it and the people who has offered martyrs to the Palestine cause. Egypt-Jordan cooperation does not mean that Jordan accepts Camp David. Mubarak has a positive stand to the PLO and we should help him in releasing Egypt from the chains of Camp David."

Abu Firas called the latest meeting of the Palestine National Council in Amman as a "turning point" and said it is the first time that the PLO has elected her bodies without any interference from any Arab regime.

"The most terrible bitterness, unfortunately, was to see some of the Arabs, Syria in particular, implementing the wish of our enemies by fighting against the PLO. While we were isolated in Beirut for 88 days, we were very sad to see the quietness of our Arab and Muslim brothers. Unfortunately the majority of the Palestinian martyrs were killed by Arab guns more than by Israel's."

Resistance Stages Rocket Attack on Israelis

JN041709 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men carried out a rocket attack yesterday on a Zionist vehicle concentration in the Al-Qasimiyah area in occupied southern Lebanon.

A number of Zionist occupation soldiers were either killed or wounded and Zionist vehicles were destroyed as a result of the rocket attack that accurately hit the target.

A Zionist spokesman admitted the operation but, as usual, did not mention his losses.

He said his forces immediately cordoned off the area and carried out an extensive, but futile, search for the resistance men.

Military Post, Patrol Attacked

JN071744 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese resistance fighters attacked a Zionist military post in the Al-Zahrani area of southern Lebanon this morning. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and rockets, resulted in a number of Zionist casualties.

The resistance men also attacked a Zionist military patrol that was passing along a road leading to Bint Jubayl in the central sector this morning. Using rockets and machine guns, the fighters destroyed one half-track vehicle, damaged another, and killed or wounded their occupants.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two operations, but, as usual, refrained from revealing his losses. He said that his forces launched large-scale search operations and arrested a large number of citizens whom the occupation troops suspected of belonging to the fighters, who withdrew safely to their bases.

AL-DUSTUR Cites Sources on Prisoner Exchange

JN071257 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Jan 85 p 19

[Text] Amman — It has been learned that contacts are under way through the International Committee of the Red Cross to reach a final agreement on exchanging a group of Palestinian detainees for three Israeli soldiers who are in the hands of the Palestinian resistance.

Palestinian sources indicate that the Palestinian resistance has stated that the exchange must cover all handicapped detainees in the detention camps and prisons of the Zionist occupation — they number 26 — in addition to the release of several strugglers, leaders, and cadres belonging to all resistance factions and who are serving long prison sentences in Zionist jails.

The sources say that the contacts under way revolve around setting the number of strugglers who will be set free. The Palestinian resistance insists that this number is some 1,000 detainees, while the Zionist occupation forces have agreed to release 450.

Palestinian Clash Reported in Ba'labakk

NC081156 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] A clash took place in Mukhayyam Wayval in Ba'labakk at noon today involving Palestinian groups. Sources of the armed struggle, which contained the clash and arrested a group of Palestinians, said that the chaotic elements recently received a message from Yasir 'Arafat asking them to incite trouble.

In another development, Palestinian national Ahmad al-Sha'bi was killed in 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp today. The Palestinian Martyrs Organization [munazzamat shuhada' filastin] claimed responsibility for the killing. The organization declared Al-Sha'bi guilty of collaborating with Israel.

Arab Bank Denies Plan To Reopen W. Bank Branches

JN070807 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 7 Jan 85 p 2

[By P.V. Vivekanand]

[Text] Amman — The Arab Bank categorically denied Sunday that the bank has finalised plans to reopen its branches in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Dismissing a report by Israel Television last week that the bank will soon reopen the seven branches — six in the West Bank and one in the Gaza Strip — a spokesman for the bank said: "It is another form of Israeli propaganda aimed at sounding out our reaction."

"There had been a number of overtures on the part of the Israelis to us hinting that they would welcome the reopening of the branches," said Tawfiq Khalil, a senior manager of the Arab Bank's International Division. "However, nothing serious has developed and at the moment we have no plans whatsoever of reopening the branches."

The Israeli Television report followed a statement by Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin that his government would welcome the establishment of an Arab Bank in the occupied territories provided that it will not be used to channel funds to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian population living under the Israeli occupation.

Mr. Rabin, replying to a motion by a Knesset member during a session of the Israeli parliament, was quoted as saying by the *JERUSALEM POST* newspaper that tentative approval for an Arab bank in the occupied territories has already been given. "But it would not be given definitely if some outside body, from the West or East, intends to use it as a facade," Mr. Rabin was quoted as saying.

The issue of setting up an Arab bank as part of Israel's moves "to raise the quality of life" of the Palestinian living under the occupation was raised after Israeli Prime Minster Shim'on Peres visited Washington in October. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was reported to have urged Mr. Peres to "take steps to improve the quality of life" of the Palestinians living in the occupied territories.

Some political analysts interpreted the Israeli Television report as aiming at probing whether the Arab Bank was interested in reopening its branches in the occupied territories.

The Arab Bank closed the branches — Jerusalem, Nabulus, Ramallah, Janin, Tulkarm, Hebron and Gaza City — following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war which resulted in the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. However, the bank has been maintaining its staff of about 80 in these branches and paying them salaries which amount to about $1 million annually.

The bank also owns some real estate assets in the occupied territories and the existing staff members are handling a small number of transactions related to discounted bills and outstanding dealings since 1967, Mr. Khalil said Sunday.

"For all official and practical purposes these branches have been non-functional since the Israeli occupation in 1967," he said.

Mr Khalil recalled that despite the closure of the branches the bank had met all its financial obligations to depositors and account-holders from the West Bank and Gaza through its Amman office in 1967.

The Arab Bank had also closed down its two branches in Jaffa and Haifa following the creation of the Jewish state in 1947 and the 1948 Arab-Israeli war.

The Arab Bank was established in Jerusalem in 1930 by the late 'Abd al-Hamid Shoman who passed away in 1974. His son, 'Abd al-Majid Shoman, heads the bank now as its chairman and general manager. He is also a member of the Upper House of Parliament and the Palestine National Council (PNC).

The Bank, which started out with a capital of 15,000 Palestinian pounds (then equivalent to 15,000 sterling pounds) with one branch in Jerusalem, has grown into an international banking network with over $12 billion as assets in 1984.

It maintains 40 overseas branches in countries including Britain, The United States and France in addition to Lebanon, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and North Yemen.

It also owns two offshore banking units in Egypt, one in Bahrain and one in Singapore.

In Jordan, over 30 branches of the bank offer various internal and international banking services.

The Arab Bank has a number of sister institutions, subsidiaries and affiliates in Switzerland, Britain and Luxembourg in Europe and Tunis, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon in the Arab world.

1st Arab Satellite To Be Launched 8 Feb

GF061114 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0845 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Jan (WAKH) — The first Arab telecommunications satellite, Arabsat, will be launched from the space center launching site in Kourou, French Guiana, in Central America, on 8 February.

An official of the UAE Ministry of Communications has said that 22 Arab states will benefit from the 1,195-kg satellite. In addition, there are 50 tons of equipment for ground control and for launching, and services such as 8,000 simultaneous telephone lines, 7 television programs, and a collective television channel, he noted.

Arabsat was established in Riyadh under the auspices of the Arab League, all of whose member states are participating in Arabsat. Arabsat is the first satellite of its type to be launched by France and the EEC.

GULF AFFAIRS

AFP: Vessel Attacked in Gulf Identified

NC071545 Paris AFP in English 1530 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, Jan 7 (AFP) — An oil tanker identified as the *Topaz Express* was hit by a missile today during an air attack in the Gulf, maritime sources here reported. Bahraini officials did not say what flag the *Topaz Express* was flying, but said the ship did not ask for help and was making its own way toward Dubayy.

Earlier today in Baghdad, an Iraqi military spokesman announced that its warplanes had hit an "important naval target" — usually meaning an oil tanker — near Iran's Khark Island oil terminal, in the northeast of the Gulf.

In London, Lloyds said the only vessel bearing the name *Topaz Express* on its lists was a 14,495 tonne bulk carrier and the ship was registered in Panama. A spokesman said its last known movement was on October 25 last, when the bulk carrier docked in the Iranian port of Bandar Khomeyni, in the north of the Gulf.

Oil circles here meanwhile said two super tankers, the 305,000 tonne *Vulcan* and the 260,000 tonne *Friendship L* were chartered over the weekend to onload at Khark Island and might be in the area of today's attack.

GCC Labor Ministers Arrive in Bahrain, Meet With Amir

GF071805 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 7 Jan (WAKH) — HH the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah today received Arab Gulf labor and social affairs ministers who are participating in the seventh session of labor ministers council due to start later today. HH the amir stressed the importance of the meetings and outcome to turn the wheel of the GCC's march in the field of labor and social affairs. Shaykh 'Isa wished the conferees all success.

The meeting was attended by Bahraini Crown Prince and acting Premier Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, secretary of the Arab Gulf Labor and Social Affairs Bureau and ambassadors of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq and Oman.

Conference of Labor Ministers Begins

GF071809 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 7 Jan (WAKH) — The seventh session of the Arab Gulf labor and social affairs ministers began here today.

At the inaugural speech, Bahraini Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Shaykh Khalifah ibn Muhammad Al Khalifah said the successive social changes in the Arab Gulf countries stressed the adherence of its citizens to development efforts exerted by their governments.

Shaykh Khalifah said the development of the Gulf citizen required a joint Gulf action. He pointed out to the production of radio and TV programmes for social guidance and said the council attached the issue a special importance. [sentence as received]

Later, Iraqi minister of labor and social affairs and president of the previous session Babakr Mahmud Rasul said that Arab rights had been violated continuously by Zionists and Iranian challenges. He called for a unified action to meet such challenges.

A procedural session went on later during which Bahraini Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Shaykh Khalifah ibn Muhammad Al Khalifah was elected the council's president, Qatari Minister of Labor and Social Affairs 'Ali ibn Ahmad al-Ansari as vice president and Saudi Assistant Undersecretary for Social Affairs Dr Yasin Salih as secretary.

The councils agenda include a number of items particularly the preparation of an Arab Gulf directory on vocational classification and the preparation of the general format on labor statistical studies in the Arab Gulf countries.

BAHRAIN

Reportage on Visit of Turkish Foreign Minister

Received by Amir

GF071136 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0955 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 7 Jan (WAKH) — Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, received here at noon today Vahit Halefoglu, the Turkish foreign minister, and the delegation accompanying him who are visiting Manama.

Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and acting prime minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah, the foreign minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, the interior minister; and the Turkish ambassador to Bahrain attended.

During the meeting, the Turkish minister extended two invitations to his highness the amir of Bahrain, and his highness the heir apparent from Turkish President Kenan Evren to visit Turkey. The Turkish foreign minister arrived in Manama last night within a tour of a number of countries in the region.

Talk With Officials

GF071321 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1140 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 7 Jan (WAKH) — Official talks began in Manama today between Bahrain, led by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, and Turkey, led by Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu.

The meeting was attended on the Bahraini side by 'Ali Ibrahim al-Mahrus, director of political administration at the Foreign Ministry; Jasim Bu 'Allay, director of economic administration; Ibrahim 'Ali Ibrahim, ambassador at the Foreign Ministry; and

'Abd al-Hakim Bu Hajji, third secretary at the Foreign Ministry. The delegation accompanying the visiting minister and Kaya Toperi, the Turkish ambassador to Bahrain, attended the meeting to represent Turkey.

WAKH has learned that during the meeting the two sides reviewed bilateral relations, particularly economic relations, and ways to promote them. They also discussed the current situation in the Gulf and efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war, particularly since Turkey is a member of the Islamic Good Offices Committee. Both countries agreed to work toward ending this war, which does not serve the interests of the Islamic world.

They discussed the Middle East question and the need to achieve a just and comprehensive solution to this issue, in order to give the Palestinian people their legitimate rights. They also discussed current Islamic issues and the Afghan question.

Concludes Visit, Departs

GF071756 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, Jan 7, (WAKH) — Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu left here this evening for home after a two day visit to Bahrain. He was seen off by his Bahraini counterpart Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and other top officials.

Before departure, the Turkish minister told WAKH that he conveyed a message to H.H. the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Sulman Al Khalifah from the Turkish President Kenan Evren. "I briefed H.H. the amir and Crown Prince Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah on the latest developments in Turkey and the Turkish policy toward the Arab and the Islamic worlds mainly the Iraq-Iran war," he said.

On his talks with Shaykh Muhammad, Mr Halefoglu said that the discussions focused on the Iraq-Iran war, the Middle East problem and bilateral relations.

The Turkish minister hoped for more cooperation between Turkey and the Arab Gulf states. "I will visit the UAE and Qatar later this month to complete my regional tour," he added.

KUWAIT

Deputy Premier Receives PLO's Rabbuh, British Envoy

LD071505 Kuwait KUNA in English 1253 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan (KUNA) — Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir received today Deputy Secretary General of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh who is currently visiting Kuwait.

Discussion during the meeting, attended by Director of the PLO office in Kuwait 'Awni Batash, covered latest developments in the Palestinian arena and the present dialogue to overcome differences between commando factions and the return of the PLO to its unity and strength [words indistinct] British envoy to Kuwait Michael Melhuish later called on Shaykh Sabah on a farewell visit on the occasion of the end of his tenure in Kuwait.

A general review of bilateral relations was made during the meeting along with regional developments.

Revenues Decline, Investment Returns Fall

GF071150 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 6 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Kuwait's surplus petrodollars, mainly invested outside the country, stood at KD22.6 billion ($74.6 billion) in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1984, according to a report by the government's Auditing Bureau released yesterday.

The figure, the total of the state's general reserves and the Future Generations Fund, represented a slight increase of about four percent over the surpluses accumulated at the end of the previous fiscal year, which reached KD21.8 billion dinars ($71.9 billion).

But the report, submitted to the National Assembly for debate, disclosed a 20 percent decline in revenue from invested surpluses — from KD1.601 billion ($5.283 billion) to KD1.288 billion ($4.26 billion).

Most of the increase in the surplus petrodollars was accounted for by the Posterity Fund which is designed by the government to enable future generations to lead a good life and find alternatives for income resources after the depletion of oil, tentatively expected after 150 years. The government is obliged by law to cut 10 percent of total revenue each year and add it to the Posterity Fund, which the report said included KD10.8 billion ($35.6 billion) at the end of fiscal year ending June 30, 1984.

Kuwait's surplus petrodollars are invested in 45 countries throughout the world, mainly in equity shares, real estate, government bonds and bank deposits in the United States, Britain, France and West Germany. The country's largest investment takeovers were the purchase of the U.S. Santa Fe Corporation in 1981 for $2.5 billion and the U.S. Gulf Company's down-stream operations in the Scandinavian and Benelux countries for more than $500 million.

Financiers and economists in Kuwait believe that income from foreign investments formed up to 40 percent of oil revenue over the past few years.

National Assembly Debates New Press Law

GF071140 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 6 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] National Assembly deputies have hit out at the proposed new Kuwaiti Press Law, which they say is a revised version of a draft law rejected in 1982. The deputies say the 1982 draft was rejected because of the harsh punishments proposed for publications which breached regulations and because it limited the freedom of the press.

Under the new draft, revealed this week in *AL-SIYASAH* and the *ARAB TIMES*, the Information Ministry would have the power to stop the publication of any material that affects the

security of Kuwait and its relations with other Arab Islamic or "friendly countries." The chairman of the Assembly's Education, Culture and Guidance Affairs Committee, Deputy Hamud al-Rumi said his committee had introduced a series of amendments to the 1982 draft, but these had not yet been discussed by the Assembly.

The new draft, which was initially believed to include only amendments to those articles of the current law dealing with video material, had taken deputies by surprise as it also included 25 other amendments and new items, Al-Rumi said.

Al-Rumi also said his committee had not yet completed discussion on an amendment to the current law proposed by several deputies which would limit the power of the Information Ministry. Under the current legislation the ministry can close down a publication while investigations are carried out into alleged breaches.

He said that if deputies were seeking to make the current law less stringent by introducing this amendment, it was unlikely they would back a new, tougher law.

OMAN

Iranian Envoy Meets With Foreign Minister

GF071200 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, received in his office today the Iranian charge d'affaires in Muscat. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest.

Briefs

New Spanish Ambassador — Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, received today the credentials of Tomas Chavarri as nonresident Spanish ambassador to Oman. [Summary] [*Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Jan 85 GF*]

Norwegian Envoy Presents Credentials — Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, yesterday received Jon Gaarder, who presented a copy of his credentials as nonresident Norwegian ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman. [Summary] [*Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Jan 85 GF*]

QATAR

WAKH: Iranian Official Arrives 7 Jan

GF071713 Manama WAKH in English 1650 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Doha, 7 Jan (WAKH) — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Administrative and Financial Affairs Mohammad 'Arab arrived here today from Abu Dhabi on a two-day visit to Qatar. He will hold discussions with a number of Qatari officials on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

SAUDI ARABIA

Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Arrives 7 Jan

LD072254 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2120 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh 7 Jan (SPA) — Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Kaya Erdem and an accompanying delegation arrived in Riyadh this evening for a visit of several days to the Kingdom during which he will head the Turkish side at the meetings of the Saudi-Turkish joint committee which begins its meetings tomorrow in Riyadh.

King Fahd Receives Lebanese Presidential Envoy

LD071609 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1422 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, 7 Jan (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has received at the royal court the Lebanese presidential envoy Simon Qassis who conveyed to his majesty a message from his brother the Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, and Lebanese Ambassador to the Kingdom Dr Zafir al-Hasan.

AL-YAWM Scores U.S. Support to Israeli Airlift

GF071802 Manama WAKH in English 1535 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 7 Jan (WAKH) — Saudi daily *AL-YAWM* commented on the unlimited support given to the Zionist entity by the U.S. Administration in contravention to all human values. The paper said the American Administration had exploited drought and famine conditions in Africa to airlift the Ethiopian Jews to the occupied Arab territory.

It called on the Arabs to shun their differences and take a firm and quick action on this new danger since the Ethiopian Jews will replace the Arab inhabitants in the occupied Arab territory.

Briefs

Saudi, Pakistani Cultural Accord — Riyadh, Jan 5, SPA — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal signed today a cultural cooperation accord between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. The Pakistani signatory of the accord was Islamabad's ambassador to Saudi Arabia Najim Saqeb Khan. The accord comes in the framework of existing cooperation between the two countries and their desire to enhance further cooperation in the field of culture and science. [Text] [*Riyadh SPA in English 1252 GMT 5 Jan 85 LD*]

Mubarak Meets NDP Leaders, Comments on Issues

NC072130 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] President Husni Mubarak met this evening with the popular, political and executive action cadres during an open meeting at the National Democratic Party [NDP] headquarters. Attending the meeting were Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, NDP Secretary General Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, the ministers, and the members of the NDP General Secretariat.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that President Mubarak chose to make a surprise visit to the NDP headquarters, in fulfillment of his expressed eagerness to attend NDP meetings in support of party action. During the meeting, Mubarak demanded that party meetings and seminars be held in various places, to explain the facts to the people. Discussing the issue of rationalization, Mubarak said that the concept is not limited to energy use, but involves all strategic commodities. He said: Our methods in making decisions must be characterized by comprehensive perspectives and serious assessments. On production, Mubarak stressed the need to expand agricultural projects on newly reclaimed lands.

The president also responded to questions on foreign policy and discussed Egypt's relations with the two superpowers, particularly its distinguished relations with the United States. He expounded on Egyptian-Israeli relations, on the developments in the Gulf war, and on the facts of the Lebanese problem, in light of President al-Jumayyil's latest message to his excellency.

In addition, President Mubarak noted the development of Arab relations, while declaring that Egypt will permit no infringements of its sovereignty and pride.

Mubarak Exchanges Messages With Chadian Leader

NC081114 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA) — President Mubarak today received a written message from Chadian President Hissein Habre pertaining to the latest developments in Chad. Mahamat (Nouri), chairman of the External Relations Committee in the National Union for Independence and the Revolution in Chad and Chadian President Hissein Habre's envoy, said after his meeting with President Mubarak in the presidential palace in Al-Qubbah this morning, that President Mubarak gave him a letter for Chadian President Hissein Habre. He added that he briefed President Mubarak on the latest developments of the situation in Chad and said: During the meeting, we discussed the problems which concern Chad, particularly our difficult relationship with our neighbor in the north, Libya.

On the situation regarding the Libyan forces in Chad, he said that the situation has not changed and that Libya is still occupying all of northern Chad, or about 530,000 kilometers.

Responding to a question on whether Chad has asked for new aid from Egypt, the Chadian envoy said: We have always asked for Egyptian diplomatic support and we ask for similar support from all our friends, in order to compel Libya to leave our country.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, who attended the meeting, made a statement after the meeting in which he said that Egypt's attitude toward the Chadian problem is defined and known; namely, that Egypt supports regional unity, adheres to Chad's political independence, and rejects any foreign interference in Chad's domestic affairs.

Moreover, Egypt supports the legitimate Chadian government of President Hissein Habre, which has been recognized by the OAU and all the other African states.

Dr Ghali said that Egypt is providing technical aid to Chad through the African Development Fund. He said there is complete coordination between Egyptian and Chadian diplomatic circles.

Dr Ghali said that in the next few days he will begin a tour of a number of African countries, including Mali, the Ivory Coast, and Senegal. He said that this tour will have a significant effect on support for the Chadian government.

Dr Ghali will head the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the joint Egyptian-Malian committee which will be held in Mali next week. Dr Ghali will also convey letters from President Husni Mubarak to the Presidents of Mali, the Ivory Coast, and Senegal.

AFP: Coptic Pope Shinudah Returns to Cairo

NC042007 Paris AFP in English 1927 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, Jan 4 (AFP) — Coptic Pope Shinudah III returned here today after almost four years in exile in a desert monastery where he had been banished by former President Anwar al-Sadat.

The 61-year-old Pope Shinudah was restored to his functions by President Husni Mubarak on Tuesday. He had retained his spiritual powers as head of the Coptic church, but the Al-Sadat decree forbade him to contact the faithful except in the monasteries in the desert region between Cairo and Alexandria.

Some 4,000 people greeted Pope Shinudah as he arrived at Morcossia cathedral here, amid tight security.

He will now be able to celebrate the Coptic nativity mass, which falls on Monday.

Mr al-Sadat moved against Pope Shinudah in September 1981, after clashes between Copts and Moslems in Cairo which left 17 people dead and 112 injured.

Relations between the state and the Coptic church had deteriorated as pressure for greater Islamization in Egypt had grown. The constitution was changed in 1980 to make Islamic shari'a the principal source of state law. Pope Shinudah ordered a three-day hunger strike in protest at the move.

Mubarak Congratulates Copts on Christmas

NC060929 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jan (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has addressed the following message of congratulations to the Christian brothers on the occasion of Christmas:

It gives me pleasure to address to the Christian brothers sincere congratulations on the birth of Christ, the symbol of love, tolerance, and brotherhood. Christ's message has found fertile land in our country to grow and flourish. When the light of Islam began to shine, the magnanimous Christian heavenly religion and tolerant Islam met on the good earth of Egypt in deep amity and true love. Ever since the dawn of life our land has been the land of love and tolerance.

All Egyptians, Muslims and Copts alike, throughout history have been one national pulse and one brave battalion in all Egypt's battles — the battles of liberation and construction alike. Imperialism, in all its various aspects, has tried to fragment this unity and cause division by its overt and covert schemes. However, all these attempts failed and foundered on the rock of national unity.

Our noble people, by their sound natural instinct and sharp discernment, have realized that religion belongs to God and that the homeland belongs to everyone.

We are confident that our great people with God's help and with their national unity, spiritual potential, and creative aptitude will be able to reformulate life on this land according to their own free will.

I implore God to grant us success in all that is pleasing to him and to guide us along the right path. Peace be with you and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

Pope Thanks Mubarak

NC071603 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA) — Pope Shinudah III expressed his gratitude to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak for the president's (?efforts) to bolster Egypt's welfare and to ensure the prosperity of its people. We are praying to God, the pope said, that he render the president and all of his aides successful in serving this beloved country, in spreading the word of love, and in bringing peace to us and to our neighbors.

In his Christmas message, Pope Shinudah said that the Copts have opened their hearts to their Muslim brethren. Our Muslim brothers, the pope added, are our flesh, blood, and bones. They are our brothers in this dear country.

On this occasion, we send them greetings from our heart of hearts and we wish Egypt all the best.

The pope officiated over the Christmas mass beginning at midnight last night, which was attended by several senior officials.

'Ali Rejects Suggestion of Being U.S. 'Satellite'

NC042225 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has denied that the United States is adopting a stand unfavorable toward Egypt and supportive of Israel by refusing to finance Egypt's nuclear reactors, affirming that the U.S. Export-Import bank has made a decision to participate with any state in financing nuclear stations in Egypt.

In an interview with the weekly newspaper *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* to be published Saturday, the prime minister said: We are friends of the United States, but we are not its agents or subservient to it or to any other country in the world.

He added that Egypt will never be a satellite of any country, and has never been a satellite country. Egypt has freedom of decision and will, and has an independent political line. This does not prevent the existence of friendship between Egypt and the United States. This friendship does not prevent us from saying no to the United States in many matters, he said.

'Ali affirmed that the economic open-door policy still exists and there is no going back from this policy. He said that the gaps which have appeared in the wake of the introduction of this policy are not due to the policy itself but to its exploitation by some middlemen and exploiters — and this will not be permitted.

He added that the government is reviewing economic policy, pointing out that the policy which Egypt has been pursuing for some time now is based on the fact that there are criteria for the public and private sectors which must be observed.

Regarding the emergency laws, the prime minister said that what matters is not the law but its application, and that the government has not and will not apply the emergency laws except when extremely necessary in order to safeguard Egypt's security and stability.

'Ali Interviewed on Opposition, 5-Year Plan

NC062240 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jan (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has expressed the hope that the Arab nation will unite its voices and enjoy stability. He also voiced hope that the Egyptian people will achieve prosperity and that the country's current 5-year plan will yield prosperity and stability.

In an interview to be published in the weekly *MAYU* magazine tomorrow, 'Ali described the relations between the government and the opposition in Egypt as good and in keeping with national interests. In this respect, he noted that the opposition parties appreciated the government's policy statement and work program, demonstrated by the unanimous approval of the statement in the People's Assembly, for the first time in many years.

The prime minister also discussed the domestic situation in Egypt and the relations between the government and the National Democratic Party, which he described as organized and coordinated, a fact that is evident in the party's open meetings.

'Ali also noted that the current 5-year plan is seen as a phase of transition between suffering and progress, and said that the next plan will focus on the fundamentals for cultural, economic, and social progress.

Jordanian Transportation Minister Arrives

NC051728 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — Jordanian Transportation Minister Farhi 'Ubayd arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 5-day visit, during which he will hold talks with Eng Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transport, communications, and maritime transport.

On his arrival, the Jordanian minister said that the official talks between the Egyptian and Jordanian delegations, to begin tomorrow morning at the Transport Ministry, will deal with joint efforts to bolster maritime and land transportation and bilateral communications. The Jordanian minister will head his country's delegation to the talks, while the Egyptian delegation will be led by Minister Mutawalli.

The Jordanian minister expressed happiness at being in Egypt, the heart of the Arab world. He was welcomed at the airport by Eng Sulayman Mutawalli and by the Jordanian ambassador to Cairo.

Agreements Reached in Talks With Jordan's 'Arar

NC051751 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — The final session of talks between Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi and Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister, was held today.

Their discussion dealt with a number of security issues of mutual interest, including cooperation in training and in combating drugs, crime, and terrorism.

A final agreement was reached on new procedures that will ensure free movement and residence by citizens of either country in the other, and on the exchange of visits between security and police commanders, to permit strengthened cooperation and the discussion of security matters of common concern.

After the talks, Sulayman 'Arar said that his discussions with Egyptian officials dealt with all issues of concern to the two countries, and declared that there was complete agreement and understanding on all issues discussed.

The Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister also noted that he and Egyptian officials discussed the possibility of increasing the number of Jordanian students who will be studying at Egyptian universities next year.

'Arar is scheduled to leave Cairo for home tomorrow afternoon at the conclusion of his 5-day official visit.

'Arar Departs

NC061522 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 6 Jan (MENA) — Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister, left Cairo for home this afternoon with his accompanying delegation following a 5-day visit to Egypt. President Mubarak met with the Jordanian minister during his visit.

Prior to his departure from Cairo airport, 'Arar said that he is carrying an oral message from President Husni Mubarak to his brother King Husayn and the Jordanian people in response to an oral message he conveyed to Mubarak. 'Arar also expressed happiness at his visit and its results.

Brunei Minister on Discussions With Mubarak

NC061118 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 6 Jna 85

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jan (MENA) — Datuk Abdul Aziz Omar, Brunei minister of education and health, has said that during their meeting today President Husni Mubarak discussed with him the facilities Egypt will give to Brunei in the field of education, as well as the grants from Al-Azhar University and some other colleges in the Egyptian universities to Brunei students. He said his visit to Cairo comes within the framework of the discussions on Egypt-Brunei cooperation, held during Brunei Sultan Bolkiah's recent visit to Cairo.

The Brunei minister arrived in Cairo 2 days ago on a week-long visit to Egypt.

Saudi Paper Cited on Forthcoming 'Arafat Visit

NC071107 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, 7 Jan (MENA) — The Saudi newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* has reported that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat is expected in Cairo at the end of this month to participate in the opening of the conference on solidarity with the Palestinian people, which is being organized by the Egyptian solidarity committee and in which parties and political and popular organizations will participate.

Quoting an official Palestinian source in Cairo, the paper says in today's edition that 'Arafat's visit to Egypt will be within the framework of the positive Palestinian moves in the Arab arena to restore solidarity to the Arab ranks. The source added that the Palestinian leader will review with President Husni Mubarak the results of his recent contacts and tours in the Arab countries.

The paper adds that the PLO is currently holding diplomatic contacts with some Arab countries aimed at consulting with them before announcing its stance on the Jordanian initiative regarding joint coordination between Jordan and the PLO.

Quoting diplomatic reports in Cairo the paper says that the PLO Executive Committee members are inclined to feel that there is a need to submit the Jordanian initiative to the coming Arab summit conference to obtain support for it.

Yugoslav Labor Secretary Arrives in Cairo

NC080948 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA) — Dr Djordje Jakovlevic, president of the Yugoslav Federal Committee for Labor, Health and Social Welfare, arrived in Cairo this morning on an official 5-day visit to Egypt.

Socialist Labor Party Elects Bureau Members

PM041525 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Jan 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Socialist Labor Party Bureau Members Elected"]

[Text] The Socialist Labor Party Executive Committee held its first meeting since the party's general congress and elected the party bureau members as follows:

Deputy Party Chairmen: Muhammad Hasan Durrah and Counselor al-Damardash Zaki al-'Uqali;
Secretary General: Dr Muhammad Hilmi Murad;
Assistant Secretaries General: 'Abd al-Hamid Barakat, secretary for organization; Hamid Zaydan, secretary for information; and Dr Bakr al-Qabbani, secretary for professional higher education, and universities;
Treasurer: Dr Zaynab Majid;
Assistant Treasurer: Dr Salah 'Abdallah.

The third general party congress has reelected engineer Ibrahim Shukri as party chairman and elected the executive committee as follows:

Enginer Muhammad Hasan Durrah, Counselor al-Damardash Zaki al-'Uqali, Dr Muhammad Hilmi Murad, 'Abd al-Hamid Barakat, Hamid Zaydan, Dr Bakr al-Qabbani, Dr Zaynab Majid, Dr Salah 'Abdallah, Ibrahim al-'Azazi, Abu al-Fadl al-Jizawi, Majdi Ahmad Husayn, Sayyid Rustom, 'Abd al-Hamid Ghazi, Mamduh Qinnawi, Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Barri, Anwar al-Shamma', Dr Ahmad Hasan, Ahmad Mujahid, Ahmad 'Abd al-'Aziz Abu 'Abdallah, Yahya Sha'lan, Dr Qasim 'Abduh Qasim, Ahmad Harak, Ahmad Farghali, Naji al-Shihabi, Dr Ahmad 'Abd al-Ghani, Ahmad Sabri Abu al-Futuh, Dr Muhammad al-'Azazi, Jamal As'ad, Dr Sayyid 'Abd al-Rasul, Ibrahim al-Ja'fari.

The party's bureau will hold its first meeting in the party headquarters at 1800 next thursday.

Egyptian, Israeli Nuclear Programs Contrasted

PM040934 Cairo MAYU in Arabic 31 Dec 84 p 9

[Muhammad Rashwan "Quiet Dialogue" column: "Nuclear Power Stations, Why Do We Oppose Them?"]

[Excerpts] At a time when a debate was going on in Egypt and conferences and seminars were being held regarding the feasibility of building nuclear power stations, and while some people with good intentions were exaggerating the hazards and ignoring the benefits, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres 2 weeks ago paid a visit to Paris. The surprising result of the visit was the French Government's approval of the sale of two Framatome-type 950-megawatt thermal nuclear reactors for energy production. The deal is worth $3 billion. France has pledged financial aid to finance the deal. An Israeli scientific mission will go to France this month to put the final touches on the deal, which has been concluded with unusual ease. The two sides have agreed to strengthen joint scientific research through the French-Israeli Technological Research Society which French Prime Minister Fabius set up when he was minister of industry. Thus Israel will possess four nuclear reactors for military and civilian purposes with a total thermal output of 1,932 megawatts, while we own only one reactor of 2 megawatt thermal output, and Iraq owns a similar one. In other words, all the Arab states put together own two reactors of a total of 4 megawatts.

I do not believe that Israel has become so stupid and foolish as to expose the life of its inhabitants to danger — particularly since it exists in such a small area of land — risk increasing its debts, which total $14 billion, or take an economic risk by concluding such a major deal.

When the French-Israeli deal was announced we did not see an uprising in the Knesset, the opposition and the partisan press did not wage campaigns to attack the government and bring pressure on public opinion, nor were questions put to the government. Will we, dear brothers, learn from Israel?

In reproaching President Mitterrand, a friend and an astute statesman, we would like to ask whether it is a coincidence that during Guy Mollet's Socialist government France gave Israel in 1957 a nuclear reactor of 26 megawatts thermal output and then again, under President Mitterrand's Socialist government, has given Israel two more reactors in 1985.

We might understand that the first time the reactor was given to Israel was as a reward for its participation in the trilateral aggression against Egypt. But President De Gaulle's policy and the rightist government under D'Estaing curbed nuclear and military cooperation with Israel because of its refusal to implement UN resolutions.

There is no doubt that Egyptian diplomacy will not let this pass without doing something, particularly since there is vast political and economic cooperation between Egypt and France in many fields. I do not claim that we are capable of undoing what has been done in the agreement between France and Israel, but we have many cards in our hand, the first of which is to ask for similar treatment and for these reactors to be subjected to international control, which Israel rejects.

When Israel was first established we said that the Arabs numbered 100 million and that time was on our side. We have now become 22 states with 190 million inhabitants. Now, while Israel is benefiting from time we are wasting it in accusations, conspiracies, assassinations, and futile theoretical debate.

The backbone of the Arab-Israeli conflict no longer relates to size or the number of inhabitants. It is primarily the mad and merciless scientific race in the field of computers, energy, and other such things. Whoever controls these things has supremacy.

We should at least ensure a strategic balance so that we will not be subjected to the fait accompli policy to which the world community is being subjected at the hands of Israel, the policy which Israel is carrying out in the Middle East in stages and with shrewdness and intelligence.

I am amazed by the behavior of some of our scientists who take part in attacks on the Egyptian nuclear program. I would like simply to ask them: Of what use are the sciences they are teaching to our children in the colleges of chemistry, physics, mathematics, and nuclear engineering, and how will these sciences be put beneficially into practice? Or should we spend millions only for those young experts to go to work in foreign or Arab countries after obtaining distinguished degrees in sciences?

Experts are unanimous in saying that Israel has become one of the advanced countries in nuclear sciences and has the biggest nuclear arms arsenal in the Middle East. The Israeli nuclear program began as of the first day of its inception in 1948. It has been shrouded in absolute secrecy. When some information leaked out about Israel's nuclear activity we used to say that this was merely psychological warfare by Israel. Israel was happy with that conclusion so that we would remain deeply oblivious.

In its technological advancement in the nuclear field Israel relied on several methods, which included:

1. Obtaining technology, equipment, and raw material in cooperation with several countries, including France and the United States.
2. Gathering information in an illegal manner through Jewish scientists in the United States and Europe specializing in the field of energy.
3. Using Mosad to steal designs and materials that Israel needs.
4. Using the local scientific capabilities and research centers in Israel.

In 1974 the CIA submitted a secret report to Congress and some of its contents were leaked and published. It said:

"Israel has actually produced nuclear weapons in view of the fact that it possesses large quantities of enriched uranium. It has also manufactured transport and delivery systems capable of carrying nuclear warheads. The CIA believes that Israel will use this weapon if its existence is exposed to danger."

In 1979 a U.S. spy satellite recorded a nuclear explosion over the Indian Ocean which was the result of a test which Israel carried out in collaboration with South Africa's racist government.

When Richard Allen, national security adviser during the early part of President Reagan's term, visited me in the People's Assembly, I asked him about what was being said about Israel possessing nuclear weapons. His answer was that the nuclear genie has come out of the bottle and more than one country now possesses or can manufacture nuclear weapons, such as Brazil.

I am not reviewing Israel's nuclear capability so that Egypt will join the nuclear club. But the least we should do is be able to use nuclear power for peaceful purposes within our state policies and programs.

Israel's Ethiopian Airlift Criticized

NC070724 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 7 Jan 85

[From the Press Review]

[Text] *AL-AHRAM* today focuses attention on the report which was leaked a few days ago about a European airlines company airlifting Ethiopian Jews called Falashas to Israel, and about this company being forced to halt the mass airlift set up between Ethiopia and Tel Aviv. The paper draws attention to the fact that this report is significant in more than one way: Ethiopia is suffering from drought which has destroyed the vegetation and the people, and has caused and is still causing the death of tens of thousands of innocent children. Would it not have been more befitting Israel from the humanitarian aspect to direct its efforts to fighting the famine and to rescuing all the Ethiopian citizens and children without discrimination, instead of concentrating all its efforts since last November on rescuing only the Jews of Ethiopia and rapidly airlifting them? The paper adds: Famine does not discriminate between Falashas and others. However, Israel preferred to rescue the Jews and to leave the non-Jews, and to confine its attention to its sons only. The paper adds: If Israel has been able so far, as the acting Jewish Agency director had said, to airlift 10,000 Falashas to its territory can we ask: Where were they absorbed? Were they absorbed within Israel's boundary? Or were they absorbed in the territories occupied by Israel? And has this absorption come at the expense of expelling the Arab citizens from their homes?

The paper expresses apprehension over the secrecy Israel imposed on airlifting the Ethiopian Jews using a European airline company, and says that it is disquieting and does not have a noble aim.

European-Made Air Defense Missiles To Arrive

NC042234 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2142 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jan (MENA) — The first "Sky Guard" air defense integrated missile units will arrive in Egypt this week. The missiles are produced jointly by Germany, Switzerland, and Italy.

The weekly newspaper *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* says that these missile units are characterized by their superior ability to locate and hit a target accurately. The arrival of these missiles will lend further strength to the Air Defense Forces.

Communique Reports 2 Maritime Targets Hit

JN071741 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,704 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. While the people are celebrating their Army's anniversary, Iraq's valiant Army asserts that it is worthy of the confidence and love of the people and the leader through its daily blows to the Khomeyniites, Iraq's enemies who are scared by our progress.

The following is a roundup of operations for yesterday evening and today:

1. In implementation of our decisions to prevent the exportation of the Iranian oil, and out of our desire to impose peace and prevent the Iranian regime from utilizing its resources to continue its aggression, our Air Force began its new year on the naval operations level with a splendid accomplishment.

At 1320 [1020 GMT] today, an air strike was delivered against a large maritime target near Khark Island, hitting it accurately and effectively.

At 1610 [1310 GMT] today, another maritime target was hit accurately and effectively. The sky hawks and their aircraft returned safely with God's protection.

2. With power and determination, some of our brave artillery units continued to deliver painful strikes against the enemy positions, weapon emplacements, and personnel in the operational sector east of Basra, inflicting losses in men and equipment.

The enemy also sustained three dead, several others wounded, and three vehicles destroyed in the same sector. Columns of smoke were seen billowing from the vehicles. Two hardware stockpiles were also burned.

3. One of our brave patrols in the central sector of the operational theater brought hardware and equipment from no-man's-land. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our forward units fired on the enemy positions with various types of weapons, inflicting losses in men and equipment. It managed to kill six troops and wound others.

4. Several of our capable forward units pounded the enemy positions and weapon emplacements in the Maysan sector, killing one, wounding others, and destroying one observation post.

5. Fresh groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the operational theater. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

6. Yesterday evening, the vicious enemy shelled Al-Shihabi with heavy artillery, demolishing three houses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 January 1985

'Large Maritime Target' Hit

GF081148 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Statement by a military spokesman issued on 8 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our Armed Forces, the striking arm of the Iraqi people, will continue to challenge daily the charlatans' regime in Iran and their defeated remnants and those who whisper evil calls into their ears.

In continuation of imposing a blockade on the enemy's oil supplies and in order to bring the opportunities for peace closer, an air strike was launched against a large maritime target south of Khark Island at 1130 [0830 GMT] today.

Our mighty pilots succeeded in scoring accurate and effective hits on the target and returned safely to base.

Let the rulers of Iran know that the only way out of the dilemma in which they have placed themselves and their peoples is to accept peace. Otherwise, they will only find crushing blows falling on their heads every day. We have said our word, O God bear witness.

8 January 1985

Austrian Minister Receives Tariq 'Aziz Message

JN051257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] Vienna, 5 Jan (INA) — Austrian Foreign Minister Leopold Gratz received a written message from Tariq 'Aziz, the Iraqi deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affaires.

Austrian Foreign Ministry sources told the INA correspondent here today that the message is related to the decisions made by the Islamic states foreign ministers' conference that ended in Sanaa on 22 December 1984.

The sources added that the message focused on explaining the conference's call for Iraq and Iran to immediately cease fire and solve the dispute on a just and honorable basis. This call was agreed on by Iraq and rejected by Iran.

The message, received by the Austrian foreign minister through diplomatic channels yesterday, also dealt with the maneuver of the Iranian delegation to the conference when it pretended to agree on the decisions but later rejected them. *The Iranian* foreign minister held a press conference on the day following the conclusion of the conference, during which he announced his government's rejection of the call and reservations concerning the conference's decision on the need to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Demobilization of Some Reserves Announced

JN051547 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jan (INA) — The demobilization of the Iraqi Army reserves who were born in 1950 was announced here today.

This demobilization will be effective as of tomorrow, Sunday, the anniversary of the foundation of the Iraqi Army.

In a statement to INA, a military spokesman said that this decree includes the first group of Army reserves who were called to service on 15 January, 1975. The military spokesman pointed out that this decree has come to explain the Iraqis' ability to foil the Iranian intentions and to defend Iraq's dignity, and that it is based on the leadership's awareness of the Iraqi Army's strength on all fronts.

School Opened for 140 Young Iranian POW's
JN061733 Baghdad INA in English 1654 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jan (INA) — A school for young Iranian POW's in Iraq has been opened today. The school, accommodating some 140 POW's ranging in age between 12 and 16 years, was set up in a POW camp in the Al-Ramadi Governorate, 100 km west of Baghdad. The POW's would be taught Persian, Arabic, English, and typing.

Iranian Oil Sales Reportedly Below OPEC Quota
JN071724 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Vienna — Oil experts in Vienna have said that Iran is facing great difficulties in marketing its oil abroad and that Iran's recent oil sales have been much lower than its OPEC quota.

In a statement to an INA correspondent today, these experts said that when Iranian Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi was in Vienna to attend OPEC meetings, he said that his regime was forced to pay well over $1.5 billion to international insurance companies due to the high insurance premiums on the vessels heading for Iranian ports.

On the same level, the Iranian opposition organization, Mojahedin-e Khalq, has said that the Khomeyni regime is currently facing difficult circumstances due to the exacerbation of Iran's economic crisis as a result of the reduction in oil revenues caused by the tight Iraqi siege on Khark Island.

The organization's Al-Mojahid radio said that the Khomeyni regime has begun to put economic and financial pressure on the citizens in an attempt to limit the repercussions of the current economic crisis.

The radio added that the Khomeyni regime increased taxes and curtailed the services rendered to the Iranians, particularly in the education and health fields, among other measures.

It said that these messures sparked off a wave of protests against and dissatisfaction with Khomeyni's backward regime among various Iranian circles.

Soviet Defense System Expected 'Early This Year'
JN070705 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
7 Jan 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] Amman — Jordan is to start receiving, early this year, a sophisticated air defence system from the Soviet Union, in accordance with a newly-signed agreement, official sources said Sunday.

Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Gen. al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, in addressing staff cadets at a military academy, announced Saturday that Jordan would start to receive the system early this year.

Commenting on Gen. al-Sharif Zayd's remarks to the cadets, a government official said the supply of the Soviet weapons would be in accordance with a new agreement signed "very recently" but did not give the exact date.

The official did not disclose the type of weapons expected, or of those already in service of the Jordanian Armed Forces. However, it is believed the weapons would be of the SAM anti-aircraft surface-to-air missiles type.

Gen. al-Sharif Zayd said the Kingdom is negotiating for arms from Britain and France despite the scarcity of Jordan's financial capabilities and economic constraints.

The army chief said the Soviet deal as well as other supplies of arms to the Kingdom, represented "a qualitative jump" in military preparedness and efficiency. He had visited Moscow on Aug. 5, where he had apparently finalised an agreement to supply Jordan with its air defence needs.

His Majesty King Husayn was quoted last October as saying he planned to visit the Soviet Union shortly to buy undisclosed types of weapons.

"We will not ask for arms from America, and will not accept arms under conditions," the King told Kuwaiti newspaper editors in a group interview conducted in Amman.

Jordan approached other countries for arms after the U.S. refusal last year to sell the Kingdom 1,613 anti-aircraft shoulder- held "Stinger" missiles. However, the Army chief's statement Saturday was the first official announcement of reaching an arms deal with the Soviet Union.

French Defence Minister Charles Hernu visited Jordan twice last year for talks on possible French arms sales to Jordan.

A spokesman for the French Embassy in Amman said that no agreement has yet been reached to provide the Kingdom with French arms. However, he said, negotiations were still underway.

The spokesman said that Jordan was mainly seeking to buy French "Mistral" anti-aircraft missiles which will be available for export by 1986.

Another French source told the *JORDAN TIMES* there was no agreement signed between Jordan and France to supply 13 French-manufactured Mirage fighter jets, as previously reported.

British Defence Minister Michael Heseltine also visited Jordan last October during which he held talks on the possibilities of arms supplies to the Kingdom. A British Embassy official refused to comment Sunday on whether an agreement has been reached to provide Jordan with British "Javelin" anti-aircraft missiles which are similar to the American Stingers.

During a visit to Jordan by a Chinese military delegation last month, a spokesman for the Chinese Embassy here said the Kingdom did not yet approach China for arms.

China had announced it was ready to provide the Kingdom with whatever it could of arms and to support the formation of a Jordanian People's Army.

AL-DUSTUR on Defense System
JN071015 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
7 Jan 85 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "The Air Defense System for Jordan"]

[Text] In light of his majesty the supreme commander's interest in and care for our Armed Forces, and through His Majesty King Husayn's concern to promote the standard of Jordan's defense abilities and develop them by all available means, comes the announcement of the conclusion of the air defense system deal with the Soviet Union. The system will begin to arrive here at the beginning of this year. This announcment brings glad tidings to all Jordanian citizens, who fully realize what this defensive deal implies.

It is no longer a secret that Jordan, after the United States refused to respond to some of its legitimate arms requirements because of Zionist pressures, immediately began to search for arms from all sources available in the East and West. Jordan found in more than one capital of the countries producing such weapons not only a profound response to and appreciation for its defense needs, but also understanding of its wise and balanced foreign policy.

Indeed, the air defense system deal with the Soviet Union is practical and concrete evidence of Jordan's great ability to establish the best of relations with all major countries and capitals on the basis of mutual respect. This deal also emphasizes to all those concerned that countries having limited resources and which are determined to defend their legitimate right to possess legitimate defense means can reject the policy of extortion exercised against them in the arms and food fields and in other similar fields. They can, on the other hand, find someone to listen to their just concerns and aspirations.

As we recall the U.S. retraction of its commitments on the supply of Stinger missiles to Jordan as a result of Zionist pressure and blackmail in Congress, we also recall with appreciation the Soviet Union's stand in responding to our legitimate defense demands and concluding the air defense system deal with Jordan.

If our Armed Forces, which are the shield of this homeland, should have all available intrinsic means devoted to serving their development and modernization, this is because his majesty the supreme commander and all citizens have confidence in the competence of all members of these daring forces and in their limitless readiness to shoulder the heavy trust, to consolidate Jordan's strength and stability, and to defend the nation's soil.

'Ubaydat Addresses Parliament on Budget
JN060825 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
5 Jan 85 pp 1, 3

[By Lamis K. Andoni, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Excerpts] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat has urged Arab oil-producing states to fulfill their commitments to Jordan following concern expressed by members of the Lower House of Parliament over the country's reliance on Arab aid and foreign loans.

"These financial pledges were decided by an Arab summit to enhance Jordan's defence capabilities as an Arab confrontation state to Israel, and thus no Arab country can possibly free itself from its commitments," he said.

Mr. 'Ubaydat made his remarks at the end of a parliamentary session dedicated to discussing this year's JD 811.2 million budget, of which JD 183 million is estimated Arab aid. The session decided to approve the budget, which was presented by Finance Minister Hanna 'Awdah in mid-December.

Oil-producing Arab countries were committed by an Arab summit in 1979 to provide annual financial aid to Jordan, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The donors, except for Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, however, have failed to fulfill their commitments for financial and political reasons.

The resulting sharp decrease in Arab aid has had negative effects on Jordan, particularly that the Kingdom maintains the longest border with Israel, is committed to support the steadfastness of people in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and suffers from a scarcity in natural resources and local sources of revenue.

Thus the prime minister, along with the members of the Lower House, thanked Saudi Arabia for paying its full dues and appealed to other states to follow suit.

Mr. 'Ubaydat announced that Kuwait Thursday paid its second installment of JD 40 million.

He pointed out, however, that the amount paid on Thursday was 40 percent less than the original Kuwaiti pledge.

The cut in the Kuwaiti share of the aid commitment was endorsed by the Kuwaiti National Assembly in 1983 because of budget deficits due to a drop in oil revenues.

Mr. 'Ubaydat said Jordan is in contact with the other Arab states that have not kept their pledges and indicated that Jordan is determined to follow up its demand that these countries fulfil their pledges.

"We totally believe that it is our right to do so since the issue is inextricably linked with maintaining our national independence and defending the Arab nation," he said.

The prime minister noted with a tone of disappointment that for many Arabs the fact that "Jordan maintains the longest front line with Israel has apparently lost its meaning and the dangerous threats it embodies have been forgotten."

Earlier in the session, the House Financial Committee, which approved the 1985 budget, appealed to the United Arab Emirates and Qatar to fulfill their commitments. Iraq cannot pay due to the costs of its four-year war with Iran and Libya refuses to meet its commitment because of political reasons.

A considerable number of West Bank deputies warned that the failure of Arab states to pay their financial commitments would only help "Israeli schemes to evacuate the Israeli-occupied Arab territories from the Palestinian inhabitants."

They pointed to the deteriorating economic situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip due to "measures by the Israeli occupation authorities that suffocate all Arab efforts to develop the occupied territories' agriculture and industries."

The deputies, however, indicated that lack of planning and coordination on the part of Jordan and the PLO in allocating the avaliable steadfastness money has also worked to reduce the effectiveness of their use in the occupied territories. Ramallah Deputy Musa Abu Ghawsh strongly criticised the draft budget for 1985 for its failure to mention the amount allocated for the steadfastness funds and the procedures and measures that will be taken to decide how and where will they be spent.

Mr. Abu Ghawsh charged that the measures that have been taken so far have "actually defeated their purpose and have not contributed to enhancing the steadfastness of our people."

During Thursday's discussion many deputies warned of the consequences of the country's dependence on foreign loans. But the most severe constructive criticism came from the House Financial Committee which recommended a curb on expenditure to reduce the country's reliance on foreign loans.

The committee's report, ready by Deputy of Amman Layth Shubaylat, pointed out that annual interests due on foreign debts have reached JD 58.55 million in 1984 compared to JD 36.56 million in 1983.

The report estimated interests due on foreign debt will reach JD 75.66 million in 1985 and JD 106.78 million in 1989.

But, the prime minister told the parliament that the amount of Jordan's foreign debt did not constitute a problem in the country.

"I would like to point out that the burden of Jordan's foreign debts is acceptable by all economic and financial standards," Mr. 'Ubaydat said.

'Arar Comments on Results of Visit to Egypt

JN062019 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister, returned to Amman this evening following a 5-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt during which he met with President Husni Mubarak and conveyed to him a message from His Majesty King Husayn. He also met with a number of senior Egyptian officials.

'Arar made a statement to a PETRA correspondent in which he said that he is carrying an oral message to His Majesty King Husayn from President Mubarak. He added that his talks with Egyptian officials were successful and fruitful and dealt with relations between the two fraternal countries in various fields, with the Arab situation in general, and with the phases through which the Palestine question is passing. The talks also dealt with several issues, including facilitating travel and residence by the two countries' citizens, entry and exit measures, and arrangements regarding the movement of containers between the ports of Aqaba and Nuwaybi'.

'Arar said that his visit dealt with increasing the number of Jordanian students in Egyptian universities and institutes, the possibility of benefiting from police colleges for training Jordanian police officers, and exchanging visits between the two sides. He added that the two sides agreed to draw up a draft protocol on combating drug crimes and to sign it after completing the legal procedures.

He said that the talks between the two fraternal countries took place in a fraternal, cordial atmosphere. We sensed Egypt's immediate response to all the issues that were discussed, stressing that relations between the two countries are an example of the best Arab relations. He expressed admiration for the Egyptian police facilities that he had visited, including the police academy and college.

Returning with the minister were Muhammad al-Khatib, the governor of Al-Balqa'; Salamah Hammad, director of the Foreigners Registration Department at the ministry; Brigadier General 'Isa al-'Umari, assistant public security director for administrative police; and Muhammad Hamdan, the minister's secretary. He was received at Alia International Airport by the interior minister under secretary, the governor of Amman, the director of public security, the director of civil defense, and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

Reportage on Dialogue for Joint Action With PLO

'Political Meetings' Taking Place

JN071518 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1445 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Amman, 7 Jan (INA) — A responsible Palestinian source said here today that Jordan and the PLO are currently holding political meetings.

The source told the INA correspondent in Amman that these meetings are aimed at following up dialogue between Jordan and the PLO in order to work out a formula for joint political action on all levels and to crystallize the foundations on which future Jordanian-Palestinian relations will be built.

It was learned here that these meetings are primarily concentrated on discussing the initiative Jordan's King Husayn proposed when opening the 17th PNC session in Amman on 22 November.

Foreign Minister Attends Talks

JN080841 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Jan 85 p 1, 3

[By Lamis K. Andoni, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Excerpts] Amman — Senior Jordanian and Palestinian representatives held their first formal round of talks Sunday to formulate a joint strategy to solve the Palestinian question, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said Monday.

An Amman-based PLO official told the *JORDAN TIMES* that the meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmud representing the Jordanian side while head of the PLO's Political Department Faruq Qaddumi and PLO Executive Committee members Brigadier 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya and 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad represented the Palestinian side.

The official, who asked not to be named, said that the PLO's perception of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian political initiative as outlined by His Majesty King Husayn during the opening of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman last November was discussed.

The official explained that the PLO has not given a final reply to the king's proposals.

He said that the PLO's rejection of 242 should not constitute an obstacle to future Jordanian-Palestinian coordination.

In an interview with the ASSOCIATED PRESS in Amman Mr. Ahmad said that two sides are expected to resume the talks in more detail after two weeks.

Mr. Qaddumi, who heads the PLO delegation for the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, left Amman for Tunis Monday.

The PLO official arrived in Amman last week to pay condolences to the family of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimi, who was assassinated here 10 days ago.

During his stay here, Mr. Qaddumi held a meeting with Mr. al-Masri and attended a working luncheon hosted by the king for PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and a high-level PLO delegation.

The PLO delegation to the Jordanian-PLO talks used to include Mr. al-Qawasimi and the PLO has not named another PLO Executive Committee member to replace him.

Khalid al-Hasan Arrives

JN080845 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 8 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan, also known as Abu al-Sa'id, arrived in Amman from Tunis yesterday evening.

Mubarak Reportedly Warned Husayn of Plots

JN081040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Jan (INA) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'*, published here today, quoted well-informed Jordanian sources as saying that the surprise visit by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to Jordan a few days ago took place for two important reasons.

The sources said that in addition to discussing Jordanian-Egyptian-Palestinian coordination on crystallizing a joint formula to be presented to the Arab summit, the Egyptian president conveyed to the Jordanian monarch details of plots against Jordan, the PLO, and Egypt.

The sources indicated that President Mubarak informed King Husayn that the plot involves subversive acts inside Jordan and assassinating Palestinian leaders living in Jordan, as well as actions against economic installations, Jordanian Embassies, PLO offices, and Egyptian Embassies abroad.

JORDAN TIMES Columnist on PLO-Syrian Ties

JN070722 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 7 Jan 85 pp 1, 3

["News Analysis" by Lamis K. Andoni, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — Syria's implicit but clear withdrawal of recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the organisation exists now under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat and Libya's call for the formation of a new Palestinian Organisation Saturday have raised doubts that Palestinian-Syrian relations are nearing a point of no return.

At the opening of the eighth congress of Syria's ruling Ba'th Party on Saturday, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad said he no longer believed that the PLO under the leadership of Mr. 'Arafat represents the Palestinian people. At the same session, Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, number two man to Libyan leader Muammar al-Qadhdhafi urged all Damascus-based factions of the PLO to form a new leadership for organisation.

Palestinian officials in Amman viewed Mr. al-Asad's statement as a serious turning point in Palestinian-Syrian relations, strained after Mr. 'Arafat accused Damascus of inciting and encouraging a rebellion within Palestinian ranks and Syria expelled the PLO chairman in 1983.

"In the past the Syrian president would not go beyond criticising Mr. 'Arafat and his policies, yet at the same time asserting that the controversy over the PLO chairman's leadership as an internal PLO problem," recalled one Palestinian official. "Even in private talks with Palestinian and Arab mediators the maximum that Mr. al-Asad would ask for was the removal of Mr. 'Arafat as PLO chairman and a change in the overall leadership of the PLO."

Mr. al-Asad's public withdrawal of Syrian recognition of the PLO, however, seemed to prove Mr. 'Arafat's charges that Syria was actually aiming to set up a substiute leadership for the PLO. But, critics of Mr. 'Arafat's policies within Palestinian ranks believe that the new Syrian position has emerged as a response to the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman last November and the apparently growing coordination among Jordan, the PLO and Egypt on future political moves to find a solution to the Palestinian problem.

'Arafat supporters, particularly in the ranks of Fatah, the mainstream commando movement and Mr. 'Arafat's power base within the PLO, say that Syria has closed all doors to reconciliation with the PLO and has always been determined to form a new organisation in case Damascus failed to exert its control over the existing PLO leadership."

Fatah officials strongly defend their decision to convene the PNc in Amman despite strong Syrian objections. "The PNC session in Amman did not abandon the PLO's revolutionary course and had extended an olive branch to the Syrians," says a senior Fatah official. "But the Syrians, who did not like the new basis that the PNC laid for Palestinian-Syrian relations which emphasised the independence of the Palestinian decision-making process, responded by assassinating the newly-elected PLO Executive Committee member, Fahd al-Qawasimi," added the official who preferred to remain anonymous.

Fatah officials and Mr. 'Arafat himself have repeatedly accused the Syrians of masterminding the assassination of Mr. al-Qawasimi, the deported mayor of Hebron in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, who was shot dead in Amman by unidentified gunmen last week. However, no information has been disclosed by the Jordanian authorities who are conducting an investigation into the murder.

Apparently, Fatah officials were not expecting that things would go so far with Syria in the wake of the PNC session in Amman, but their critics, particularly officials of a "Democratic Alliance" within the PLO, believe that Mr. 'Arafat has given Syria enough pretexts it needs to call for a substitute organisation.

An Amman-based official of the "Democratic Alliance" told the *JORDAN TIMES* Sunday that Saturday's statements by Mr. al-Asad and Major Jallud reflected the alliance's strongest fears. "We were hoping to avoid reaching such a stage and that was why we objected to the convening of the PNC in Amman," he said. The "Democratic Alliance," which groups the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) and the Palestinian Communist Party, did not attend the PNC session in Amman as did the Syrian- backed "National Alliance" grouping of Al-Sa'qah, the PFLP-GC, the Popular Struggle Front and rebels within the Fatah movement.

While the "Democratic Alliance" called for a comprehensive Palestinian dialogue to settle all inter-PLO differences before the PNC could be convened, the "National Alliance" insisted that Mr. 'Arafat step down before the council, the highest Palestinian decision-making body, could meet.

The "National Alliance" has also refused to join in a dialogue as called for by the "Democratic Alliance" and Fatah.

Despite its boycott of the PNC in Amman and strong criticism of Mr. 'Arafat's policies, the "Democratic Alliance" still recognises the present framework of the PLO. The PFLP of George Habash, however, has issued several statements describing the council meeting as "illegitimate" and its decisions "null and void".

Yet, the PFLP and other factions in the "Democratic Alliance" have repeatedly voiced their rejection of all attempts to form a substitute organisation to replace the PLO.

In his speech before the Ba'thist congress on Saturday, Major Jallud said Libya was "irritated" by reluctant Palestinian factions. He clearly indicated that Libya believes it was time for all Palestinian factions opposed to Mr 'Arafat to unite under a new umbrella and that Libya will support such a new organisation.

"It is time for the Palestinian factions to stop working within the framework of a 'National Alliance' or a "Democratic Alliance,'" he said. "If the Palestinians want to be effective they would have to unite in one new front against the Palestinian right-wing," he added.

"Democratic Alliance" officials in Amman viewed Major Jallud's statement as an indirect pressure on them to join in a new PLO, and said they "refuse to succumb to such pressures adn will never accept the formation of a substitute PLO."

"It is true that we are not in a very strong position, but our position in Syria will be much better if Fatah agrees to resume its dialogue with us," said one "Democratic Alliance" official.

Ever since the conclusion of the PNC meeting in Amman, the alliance has been urging Fatah to resume a reconciliation dialogue that came to a halt when the Fatah leadership decided to convene the council in Amman without the participation of the factions represented in the alliance. Fatah says that it is ready to resume the dialogue but rejects the alliance demand that another PNC session be held which will be considered at the 17th session of the council in place of the Amman meeting.

Fatah officials, who seem to have taken the Syrian and Libyan statements seriously, say they are not worried over the emergence of a new PLO "because it will lack popular Palestinian support."

According to a senior Fatah official, "unless the 'Democratic Alliance' agrees to join in, such an organisation will be a Syrian surrogate which will be rejected by the Palestinian masses."

The official expressed fears that the PFLP might succumb to Syrian pressures and join in a parallel organisation — a charge that PFLP officials repeatedly deny.

"Democratic Alliance" officials as well as political analysts in Amman, however, believe that the political line that Mr. 'Arafat will pursue and the progress of peace efforts in the area will be the main factors in determining the actual polarisation in the Palestinian arena.

Prince Hasan Leaves for Pakistan 6 Jan

JN061226 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan left Amman for Pakistan this morning on a short working visit, during which he will meet with Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and senior Pakistani officials. The crown prince was seen off by His Highness Prince Faysal ibn al-Husayn, the court minister, the chairman of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilization Research, the Pakistani ambassador in Amman, and a number of senior officials.

Gas Turbine Agreement To Be Signed With PRC

JN070847 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 7 Jan 85 p 3

[By Olga Mikhayil]

[Text] Amman — A $60 million contract is expected to be signed Monday between the Fujian economic delegation, representing the Fujian Province of the People's Republic of China, and the United Trading Group (UTG), a leading private Jordanian company in Amman.

The agreement to be signed is a turnkey project which will be implemented by UTG in Fujian Province for building three gas turbo generators. The turnkey project, which will be handed over to the Chinese Government after one year, is a type of mobile power plant with three gas turbine generators, each with a capacity of 75 megawatts.

The Fujian delegation, currently on a visit to Jordan, is discussing with various governmental sectors and private enterprises the possibility of increasing techno-economic cooperation between Jordan and the People's Republic of China in general and with Fujian Province in particular. "In fact, this visit is a followup to Chinese President Li Xiannian's official visit to Jordan," Mr Zhang Yi, vice governor of the province, told the *JORDAN TIMES*. During the Chinese president's visit to Jordan late last year, he met with His Majesty King Husayn and they agreed to expand and develop further technical and economic cooperation between the two countries.

The Fujian economic delegation met Saturday with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and discussed various aspects of cooperation between Jordan and China, in line with the philosophy of South-South cooperation.

Mr. Zhang Yi said that during the meetings with Prince Hasan, we discussed the possibility of cooperation between the two countries in the fields of expertise, especially that Jordan has highly qualified expertise in the software field.

The United Trading Group (UTG) is a private limited company owned by Jordanians. It has 43 operational offices in 19 countries all over the world and is carrying out specialised projects in China, Thailand and Malaysia.

Among the different specialised projects that the company is implementing, UTG signed an agreement last July with the Ministry of Energy in China to construct and operate five nuclear power stations in different provinces of China.

The cost of this project is $7 billion and the company is still studying the possibility of contracting with different European companies to supply the expertise needed to carry out such a sophisticated and technical project. According to the contract, UTG will hand over the five nuclear power stations to the Chinese Government after ten years.

"UTG has also signed other agreements with the Fujian economic delegation. One is to construct two hotel complexes in Fuzhou, the capital of the Fujian Province, and the other in (Xiamen)," Mr. Suhayl Kharruba, a senior management official at UTG said in an interview with the *JORDAN TIMES*. "The hotel complex to be built will be a four or five star hotel and will cost $30 million," he added.

Another contract signed between UTG and the Fujian economic delegation is for building up an international information centre. "This centre is designed to be a computerised and highly technical centre and will cost around $15 million," Mr. Kharruba said. "In order to operate such a centre, we will ask the help of certain computer companies to help supply us with the necessary equipment and the technical advice," he added.

As part of the delegation's discussions and meetings with various governmental officials, the Fujian economic delegation met with Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad al-'Anani and discussed the possibility of increasing technical assistance and economic cooperation between the two countries.

During the meeting with Mr. al-'Anani, the delegation discussed the possibility of buying potash, phosphates and fertilisers from Jordan and in return China will sell to Jordan various goods which are needed in the Jordanian market.

The Fujian economic delegation also met with Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, President Mahmud Balqaz and discussed the possibility of signing an agreement with Alia to provide the new Fujian airline with managerial advice and ground maintenance.

"We set up our new local airline in Fujian Province and we would like to consult a prominent airline such as Alia about the types of aircrafts and kinds of management needed," Mr. Zhang explained.

The Fujian economic delegation comprises Mr. Zhang Yi, vice governor of the province, (Hsang Jiang) vice secretary general of provincial government, (Lan Ya Shi) general manager of the Fujian Investment and Enterprise Corporation, (Chiu Yung Zhang) general manager of China-Fujiian Corporation, (Gao Xiao) general manager of the (Xiamen) International Information Development Co., (Yang Guo Ding) advisor to Fujian investment and enterprise corp., and (Wi Li Ping) secretary to Fujian provincial government. During their visit to Jordan, which started five days ago, the delegation also met with the minister of energy, the chairman of Petra Bank, the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan and public and private business officials.

SAWT AL-SHA'B on Pipeline Project With Iraq

JN061350 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 6 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman – The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources' 5-year plan (1986-1990), which is considered part of the state's plan for the coming years, includes the implementation of various important projects, including the Al-Hadithah-Aqaba pipeline project. This project aims at studying, designing, and implementing an oil pipeline with a 1.07 meter diameter and 950 km in length, 600 km of which will lie on Jordanian territory, between Al-Hadithah in Iraq and the Jordanian port of Aqaba.

The project will be implemented in two stages. In the first stage, the pipeline's daily capacity will be 0.5 million tons of oil, to be increased to 1 million tons in the second stage. The total cost of the pipeline is estimated at more than 380 million Jordanian dinars. Jordan's share will be 240 million dinars while the rest will be covered by Iraq. The project's internal economic revenues are estimated at more than 20 percent yearly.

Projects for windmills, a solar heater factory, an energy laboratory, a computer for the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, and the ministry's building will also be implemented.

AL-DUSTUR on Sudanese Role in Israeli Airlift

JN051132 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 5 Jan 85 pp 1, 24

["Opinion" column signed by "Hakim": "Awaiting Khartoum's Answer"]

[Text] The Israeli authorities certainly can congratulate themselves on the success of their secret plan to smuggle 12,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel. The Israeli press can consider this outstanding operation as a triumph of the Zionist tenets and values that are based on gathering the world's Jewry to live in Israel.

While those who were involved in the operation – both Arabs or non-Arabs – regarded their contribution as a sort of pure humanitarian effort to save people from starvation, Israel and the Israeli media did not. The Israeli media regarded it as a triumph of the Zionist creed and as a means of beefing up the Israeli people.

We are not against humanitarian initiatives toward people who are suffering or facing the threat of death. However, we oppose any assistance offered to a certain people if this assistance means oppressing another people. The Ethiopian Jews who were brought to Israel will replace other people who are being driven out of their homeland and who have been leading a life of pain and suffering in camps and in exile for 36 years. These are the Palestinian people.

The human sentiments that were voiced in the United States on both the official and popular levels, and the demands to help settle the Ethiopian Jews in occupied Palestine are misguided, misleading, and prejudiced because they deny the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland and to govern themselves by themselves. While not expressing astonishment at this double standard of behavior from the Westerners in general and the Americans in particular, we are utterly astonished at reports that the airlift of Ethiopian Jews started from Sudan. While not sympathizing with the dictatorial regime of Addis Ababa or accepting its specious pretenses of innocence concerning the smuggling of the Ethiopian Jews from its territory, its accusations that the Sudanese Government facilitated the smuggling are serious ones worthy of an answer. How can Belgian planes land on Sudanese territory and transfer 12,000 Ethiopian Jews from there without the knowledge of the Sudanese Government?

The Arab governments and people have been used to protesting against any government that facilitates the emigration of Jews to Palestine on the grounds that they will eventually form manpower that Israel will exploit in expansion and aggression against the Palestinian and Arab peoples. Therefore, we will not remain silent on facilitating the emigration of Ethiopian Jews to Israel if the accusing finger is pointing toward an Arab state that raises the banner of Islam and says it applies Islamic law and teachings.

This daring, intelligent operation is undeniably another triumph for Zionism and Israel. But the important question is: Was Israeli boldness and intelligence the factors that made the operation possible, or was it the usual Arab weakness and stupidity, or maybe the plots by others behind it? Khartoum knows the answer. Let it speak.

Further on Al-Naqurah Negotiations With Israel

Spokesman on Expanded UN Role

NC071406 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] A Lebanese military spokesman affirmed today that the Lebanese military delegation to the Al-Naqurah negotiations asked the Israeli side to submit a program for the total withdrawal of the Israeli Army from Lebanon before the UN forces' deployment can be considered. The spokesman told newsmen that when the Israeli delegation submits a program for total withdrawal, we shall discuss the question of the role of the UN emergency force in the areas from which the Israeli Army will withdraw. The spokesman added that this force can then reach a strength of 30,000 soldiers compared to the present 5,000. This shows that the Lebanese Government does not object to the expansion of the role of the UN emergency force if Israel submits a timetable for withdrawal.

He also said that the UN emergency force will have the right to deploy in all of southern Lebanon up to the Israeli border and not only from west to east as Israel wants.

The spokesman said that the Hebrew state wishes to divide Lebanon into several areas through the redeployment of the UN emergency force.

UNIFIL Spokesman Issues Statement

NC071430 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Dispatch by radio correspondent Antoine 'Awn from Al-Naqurah – recorded]

[Text] The final statement concerning the 12th round of negotiations in Al-Naqurah today was delivered by UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel a little while ago. The statement says:

The military talks between Lebanon and Israel being held under UN auspices in an effort to work out security arrangements and to bring about the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, resumed for a 12th round. The Lebanese delegation presented views inspired by Lebanese President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's speech yesterday. The Israeli delegation will convey the Lebanese views to the Israeli authorities for evaluation. The Israeli delegation will contact UNIFIL Commander General Callaghan about the next round on Thursday.

This was the official statement read by the UNIFIL spokesman.

Phalangist Leader on Talks

NC071355 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Phalangist leader Dr Elie Karamah said in a press statement that the security plan, and consequently the Al-Naqurah talks, are a test for all the Lebanese. The security plan is closely connected with the Al-Naqurah talks. Referring to Walid Junblatt, the Phalangist leader said that it is clear who is impeding the security plan. It is important that the Al-Naqurah talks succeed, because this will remove all the obstacles facing the security plan, Dr Karamah said.

Dr Karamah added: The Syrian stand is being tested today. Is Syria capable of pressuring Walid Junblatt to accept the plan already blessed by Damascus? Some Christians are questioning the Syrian role. They are asking what Syria wants? Is Syria truly seeking a solution? Does it want to see the security plan implemented? Or, is such a solution beyond the limits of our capabilities and Syria's?

The Phalangist leader said: We still believe Damascus can play a major role in bringing success to the security plan and the Al-Naqurah talks. By doing so, Syria would help return the south to Lebanon's sovereignty, stabilize the Al-Kharrub region, avert a replay of the tragedy in the mountain, preclude the establishment of a so-called Druze canton, and refute Israel's allegations about the security of its northern borders.

We have wagered on the success of the Lebanese state, presidency, and Army, with the hope that such a stand will help bring an end to the Lebanese problem. The Phalange Party has again acted like a benevolent mother. It has laid its resources at the foot of the state. We will not threaten now to take back what we have given. It is still premature for that. We do not want to make any threats. We want to give all the Lebanese parties a chance to take proper stands.

Dr Karamah added, in a statement published today in the annual edition of *AL-'AMAL*: If someone uses violence against us, we will respond more violently. Self-defense can also take the form of a preemptive attack.

The Phalangist leader said that the major Lebanese, regional, and international powers no longer question the political weight of the Lebanese Christians and Maronites, which constitutes a major guarantee for the Christians in Lebanon and the region.

Dr Karamah said: Our goal, as Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil always said, is not to create a Christian homeland and have it grafted, like a foreign body, on the Arab world. What we want is a country for both the Christians and Muslims, for all the sects to live in liberty and dignity. There have been calls for turning Lebanon into an Islamic state and we are truly hoping to hear one Muslim voice refuting such calls.

Birri Makes Statement on Talks in Damascus

NC061912 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Contacts between Beirut and Damascus are continuing in an effort to advance the coastal security plan. Within this framework, a meeting was held in Damascus at noon today by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Minister Nabih Birri, and Minister Walid Junblatt. They discussed the latest political and security developments in Lebanon, particularly the plan for the Army's deployment on the coastal line.

Minister Birri and his accompanying delegation returned to Beirut from Damascus this afternoon after attending the opening session of the Ba'th Party regional congress and holding talks with Senior Syrian officials.

The Amal movement delegation and a delegation from the National Democratic Front, consisting of Minister Walid Junblatt, 'Asim Qansu, and [name indistinct], also held a meeting in Damascus until late last night. They focused on the Lebanese and Arab situations, particularly on the need to go ahead with the coastal security plan. Their discussion was concluded in an expanded meeting in Syrian Vice President Khaddam's office, attended by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Ministers Birri and Junblatt, and those who attended the first meeting. Afterward, Minister Birri made the following statement:

Several issues were discussed at this meeting, the most important of which was the need to implement coastal security plan and the problems that have hindered its implementation to date.

I would like to affirm that there is a continuing alliance between the Progressive Socialist Party and the Amal movement. Brother Walid Junblatt's concern about this alliance is as sincere as our own. The purpose of the alliance is to achieve a coherent national position on confronting the plots being concocted against Lebanon's unity and our united national position.

Minister Birri added: Brother Walid Junblatt again declared his agreement to the implementation of the coastal security plan and his willingness to facilitate any request that will lead to this implementation, because of the national importance of reaching the south. No reservation is valid, given the significance of this goal. The internal security forces should be deployed, and the other steps should be implemented, in accordance with the plan prepared by the Military Council for this purpose.

Minister Birri continued: Actually, Minister Junblatt's position did not surprise me. He has always played a leading role in national issues, and has always cared about the south and its people and about anything that might strengthen our national resistance and put an end to the siege of the south. Thus, our meeting was absolutely positive. We hope that its results will be put into effect very soon, particularly as fraternal Syria and its leaders are providing impetus and support for our actions.

PSP Source Renews Support for Security Plan

NC070818 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The Al-Naqurah military talks will enter the 12th round today. Observers have said that they do not expect that the talks will have any positive results. The security plan for the coast and Iqlim al-Kharrub is still turning in the whirlpool of Phalangist conditions which were yesterday discussed by Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri, and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Other meetings were also held in Damascus between the nationalist leaders and Syrian officials.

Within the framework of the consultations currently taking place on the security plan, an official source of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has renewed his complete support for the latest agreement reached in Damascus in the presence of and with the participation of the Syrian officials. The official source also said that the contacts which took place in Damascus during the past 2 days and which included all the nationalist leaderships, have underlined the need to expedite the implementation of the security plan in the form it had been agreed upon.

The source added: We, as a Progressive Socialist Party, renew our commitment to the contents of the plan and we affirm our readiness to give all the guarantees and facilities that would ensure its implementation. We hope that everyone will act responsibly and adhere to the pledges that are made.

The official source added: We as Lebanese must benefit from the positive and constructive Syrian role and seize the opportunity of liberating the south without yielding to Israeli conditions.

Junblatt Authorizes Birri To Contact Al-Jumayyil

JN061849 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri, 'Asim Qansuh, and their aides held intensive consultations with the Syrian leadership over the past 2 days on various Lebanese issues, particularly security problems and the military negotiations at Al-Naqurah, which are due to be resumed tomorrow, Monday. They attended the opening session of the eighth congress of the ruling Ba'th Party yesterday, and Birri and Junblatt made speeches. They also held talks with Libya's number two man, Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, who has been staying in Damascus for a few days.

In a statement to our radio, Minister Junblatt said that it was agreed to authorize Minister Nabih Barri to contact President Amin al-Jumayyil to iron out obstacles that might crop up at the eleventh hour on the path of the coastal security plan. Minister Birri left Damascus for Beirut today while Junblatt remained in Damascus to continue his contacts.

Amal Source Denies Birri-Jallud Meeting in Damascus

NC061926 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] A responsible Amal movement source has denied a report broadcast by Monte Carlo radio at 1930 today that Nabih Birri, minister of state for South Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, met with [Libya's] Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud in Damascus. The source said that no such meeting has taken place, and asked the media to confirm their facts before broadcasting such reports.

Junblatt Reportedly Approves Plan

NC070643 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt has announced that an agreement has been reached according to which Minister Nabih Birri has

been authorized to contact President Al-Jumayyil to iron out obstacles that might crop up at the last moment vis-a-vis the implementation of the coastal security plan.

A socialist source has said that the Progressive Socialist Party approves the plan which has been worked out in Damascus between Ministers Birri and Junblatt under the auspices of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Karami Meets With Al-Jumayyil, Makes Statement

NC051721 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami held their weekly meeting at the Presidential Palace today and discussed security and the political situation, particularly the elimination of the obstacles to the implementation of the coastal road security plan.

After their meeting, Prime Minister Karami met with the Swiss ambassador in Beirut to discuss the circumstances of the kidnapping of the third secretary at the Swiss Embassy.

On leaving the presidential palace at 1430, Prime Minister Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Karami] During my meeting with his excellency the president, we talked about current developments in the country, particularly the coastal plan and the obstacles it is facing, which render its implementation so difficult that some people think that it will never be done. Therefore, I would like to emphasize that our goal is to deploy our Army up to the Al-Awwali River and to do this as quickly as possible, to prove that the Lebanese support the decision to dispatch the Army to the south so that it may be near every area from which the enemy withdraws.

So, in terms of the misunderstanding that has arisen on the deployment of the internal security forces and their positions, we are working diligently with the concerned parties to eliminate the difficulties, which are nothing compared to those we experienced when discussing the Army deployment plan. For this reason, I would like to affirm that our resolve and determination to succeed in implementing this plan are equal to the expectations of all.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, would you accuse any specific party of obstructing the Army deployment plan?

[Karami] In truth, the 10-year-old conflict produces such misunderstandings on current issues. However, intentions are stronger than disputes. We must emphasize the soundness of our intention to serve the interests of this country, for which we are all responsible.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, is there anything new, on the Lebanese side, in the negotiations in Al-Naqurah?

[Karami] We must reiterate that our stands are clear and that they derive from firm principles. We are eager to preserve our sovereignty and to show full responsibility in securing arrangements that would safeguard the security of the Lebanese citizens in the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. As for the UN emergency forces, we continue to stress our interest in and gratitude to the United Nations, which is working diligently in the service of Lebanon's interests. Therefore, in agreement with this August organization, we will continue to work, giving no one the opportunity to influence us in a way that would reflect negatively on the unity of our country and its people.

[Reporter] You met with the Swiss ambassador in Beirut today about the kidnapping of the charge d'affaires a few days ago. Is there anything new in this respect?

[Karami] We are eager to preserve our good relations and friendship with friendly foreign states, for we regard them as an asset to Lebanon, from which we may benefit in our just struggles, particularly that for liberation. We deeply regret the occasional attacks on friendly states' representatives in Lebanon. We constantly wonder who benefits from such actions, which are completely unacceptable and do nothing to advance Lebanon's interests. We appeal to all Lebanese to realize that such acts only damage Lebanon and its relations with other countries. As for what happened to the adviser in the Swiss Embassy, we are all aware of Switzerland's policy toward Lebanon. I need not mention the meetings in Geneva and Lausanne and the facilities and assistance we were given by Switzerland, which wishes Lebanon only well. Therefore, we find it hard to believe that a Lebanese party that seeks to serve Lebanon's interests or that is eager to preserve Lebanon's good relations with friendly states could perpetrate such an action, if aware of its consequences.

[Reporter] Thank you, Mr Prime Minister. [end recording]

Obstacles to Security Plan Implementation Discussed

Lebanese Forces Spokesman Interviewed

JN042050 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1915 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Interview with Na'um Farah, official in charge of foreign relations and official spokesman for Lebanese Forces, by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Yusuf Dakkash; carried within "It Happened Tomorrow" program — date and place not specified; recorded]

[Text] [Yusuf Dakkash] The first question is: What are the obstacles now preventing implementation of the security plan?

[Na'um Farah] The obstacles were mainly placed by Walid Junblatt, because he knows quite well that if the security plan is implemented in the southern coast and Iqlim al-Kharrub, he will lose some of the positions he won by force. He stole these positions from the state. He first aims at political domination in the region and then he (?will foil) any possibility of a political and security (?arrangement) in the future. He would also lose his political domination over Iqlim al-Kharrub and, subsequently, over the Sunnis in the Iqlim and put pressure on the Sunni community as a whole. Third, if the coastal road is opened, Walid Junblatt will lose a financial and economic source that is extremely important

for his party's finances. This source is represented in the roadblock of Batir in the upper Al-Shuf, which everyone knows gets large sums of money from cars and trucks traveling to and from the south.

[Dakkash] The obstacles, then, are not placed by you, because Junblatt's men accuse the Lebanese Forces of obstructing the implementation of the plan?

[Farah] It is an easy and traditional game for him to accuse others of obstructing it. On the contrary, we want the security plan to be implemented and we want the Army to be deployed there because, as Lebanese Forces, we have always been the side calling for the return of legitimacy to all Lebanese areas from which they were evacuated by force or as a result of occupation.

[Dakkash] In an interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine, Walid Junblatt said that the present security plan is only an attempt to encircle the mountain. What you said a short while ago may go in this direction.

[Farah] I completely contradict what Walid Junblatt said, because the security plan is aimed at guaranteeing security and reassurance to the people of Iqlim al-Kharrub and at opening the southern road for the Lebanese Army so that the Army can enter the south when Israel withdraws from southern Lebanon.

[Dakkash] Do you think that opening the southern road will secure contact between the Shi'ites of Beirut and those in the south?

[Farah] We believe that every Lebanese should contact his Lebanese brother and that communities should contact one another. We encourage the Army's deployment there.

[Dakkash] Is there political coordination between you and Nabih Birri in this regard?

[Farah] Mr Dakkash, no one wants to encircle Junblatt; it is Junblatt who is encircling Beirut with his artillery and shelling the secure residential quarters daily. He is destroying houses and creating many victims. It is he who is encircling Beirut, closing the Damascus International Highway, and heating up fronts daily.

[Dakkash] Is there any coordination between you and Nabih Birri regarding the security plan?

[Farah] We agree with Nabih Birri within the framework of the four-member security committee that meets almost daily on the need to spread state legitimacy over all areas. We also agree with him on the need to open the southern road, because this is an important humanitarian, political, social, and economic factor for the continuation of the Lebanese society as a multifaceted and open society.

[Dakkash] Do you expect the continued implementation of the plan; that is, do you expect the removal of obstacles? If not, what is the alternative?

[Farah] The alternative is continuation of the status quo. The alternative will be consecration of the currently existing divisive situation. The Lebanese state will then lose all its credibility. If the security plan is not implemented, it will be a political and security victory for Israel.

[Dakkash] What will the alternative for the Lebanese Forces be?

[Farah] The alternative is that the Lebanese Forces will continue to defend Iqlim al-Kharrub with the area's people because the Christian presence in this region is historical and old. We have to defend the Christian community because we consider this community an important element in the structure of the Lebanese society as a whole.

[Dakkash] Junblatt says there are two plans — Phalangist and national. Do you agree?

[Farah] We believe that Junblatt has a fascist and proletarian plan with which he seeks the hegemony of his community, which represents only 5 percent of the Lebanese people, over the Lebanese decision as a whole. Our plan is a civilized one. Our plan is the plan of reforms, the plan that every Lebanese should live in his country reassured and dignified. This is our plan. We want the state to return to all parts of the homeland and we want this prejudiced sectarianism on behalf of which and about which Junblatt is speaking to disappear. We accuse Junblatt of mass terrorization of the citizens by shelling secure residential areas.

This afternoon, he sent a booby-trapped car from Ra's al-Matn to the eastern areas. Fortunately, however, this car exploded before it reached the populated areas. This is Walid Junblatt, who wants to dominate the Lebanese decision. He is trying to utilize regional contradictions to serve his purposes.

[Dakkash] Mr Farah, one last question if you please; have the heavy weapons in the Iqlim al-Kharrub area been collected as agreed upon by the Military Committee?

[Farah] This must take place when the security plan begins to be implemented and not before.

[Dakkash] This means no weapons have been collected so far?

[Farah] No, the security plan has not begun to be implemented.

Lebanese Forces Criticize Junblatt

NC071909 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The Lebanese Forces Command Council held its weekly meeting this evening, chaired by Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir, to discuss the latest political and security developments. After the meeting, a communique was issued, stating that while the government and security committees were making every effort to ensure implementation of the solutions proposed to avoid further degradation of the situation, Walid Junblatt and those standing behind him were continuing their escalation, both by undermining the implementation of the plan and by attacking the government and all other parties. It was sufficient to go over an interview with the Arabic language magazine *AL-WATAN AL-*

'ARABI to realize that all his pretexts referring to the security plan for the southern coast and Iqlim al-Kharrub were but sample indications of his projects and schemes, which threaten the very existence of sovereignty.

While helping all efforts for a solution, the Lebanese Forces' communique said, to abort such attempts, the Lebanese Forces were always aware of the Junblatti plots, both long-term and short-term. With those facts clear, the Lebanese Forces called on the government, the parties, and the various communities to collaborate to foil the criminal and disgusting Junblatti plans, which could weaken the integrity of the country, and all attempts to dissolve the coexistence that all sincere people were working for, and that the enemy was trying to undermine by assembling, for example, car bombs to sow death and destruction in the free region.

The Lebanese Forces' communique added that after causing the isolation of its community and making enemies of all, Mr Junblatt was now trying to establish his Druze empire on the ruins of the coexistence which he had destroyed in the region under his control.

The Lebanese Forces' communique added that all the so-called progressive Junblatti mentality [words indistinct] in Lebanon, to serve those who wanted neither development nor prosperity for Lebanon, but [words indistinct] situation of Lebanon throughout history and its pluralist society, which made it the crossroads of civilization, was something that Walid Junblatt did not understand. He wanted a particular position for the Druze community, who represented only 5 percent of the population, and to impose his view on all the other communities.

Junblatt Rejects Conciliation With Phalangists

NC080648 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] In a press statement today, Minister Walid Junblatt announced his complete rejection of any conciliation with the ruling Phalange Party. Junblatt called on the Army to change its policy and called for introducing compulsory military service. Junblatt admitted that explosions are taking place in West Beirut.

Junblatt said: I never asked to become a minister. It was the circumstances that dictated this on me. He pointed out that he rejects any role by the UN forces north of Al-Zahrani as this would make Lebanon a new South Korea.

Phalangist Leader on Syria's Stand, Coexistence

NC070744 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Phalange Party leader Dr Elie Karamah has affirmed that the security plan is linked with the Al-Naqurah talks, adding that Syria's stand on the prevalent state of affairs is the touchstone. He said: We are now passing through a tug-of-war stage, which is the penultimate stage preceeding the solution.

The Phalangist leader continued saying: Certainly, the solution of the Lebanese problems will take place this year. He pointed out that the Lebanese have not yet attained the final formula which could safeguard the rights of every citizen. He said tha coexistence among various factions is contingent upon the acceptance of the Lebanese Muslims of this formula.

Finishing Touches Put on Deployment Plan

Liaison Committee Approves Plan

NC080841 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] During its meeting, which is still in progress, the Joint Liaison Committee worked out a final visualization concerning the Internal Security Forces' deployment plan. The plan provides for setting up fixed positions for the Internal Security Forces in the following areas: Al-Jiyah thermal power plant, Al-Sa'diyat, 'Anut, B'asir, Harat B'asir, Majdaluna, Al-Mughyariyah, Al-Burjayn school, Bsaba, and Al-Mtullah.

Coastal Line Plan Detailed

NC080939 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] At the end of its meeting today, the Liaison Committee for the coastal line and Iqlim al-Kharrub decided the following:

1. A complete abidance by the cease-fire agreement reached on 31 December 1984;
2. The commencement of the deployment of the internal security forces;
3. The reopening of the Al-Damur-Kafr Him road;
4. The reopening of the Al-Jiyah port;
5. The implementation of the work program.

Security forces have been instructed to proceed as follows: The first group will proceed from the Al-Hilu barracks and the second group will proceed from the B'abda emergency unit. The two groups will meet in Khaldah, and when they reach Al-Damur, bulldozers will eliminate all hurdles blocking the coastal line.

In another development, information reaching us from Iqlim al-Kharrub indicates that Al-Jiyah and its thermal power plant, as well as Tallat al-Zarut, are now coming under intermittent artillery fire. Also, the coastal strip between Al-Sa'diyat and Al-Rumaylah are being subjected to intensive sniper fire from the socialist positions in Barja and B'asir.

Security Forces Leave for Coast

NC081021 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of labor and education, received a telephone call from Major General 'Uthman 'Uthman, director general of the Internal Security Forces, advising him that the security forces left for the coastal line at 1000 to perform the tasks to which they have been assigned.

KUNA: American Priest Kidnapped in Beirut
LD080819 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0754 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Beirut, 8 Jan (KUNA) — Armed men in West Beirut this morning kidnapped Father Laurent Martin Jenko the American head of the Catholic Relief Bureau in Beirut, and took him to an unknown destination.

According to a security source, the kidnapping took place at Sadat Street in the Al-Hamra quarter in West Beirut where his kidnappers intercepted his car and then took him in their own car to an unknown destination after releasing his driver, Khalid Qurunful, whom they rebuked for "working in the service of the Americans."

The Catholic Relief Bureau is a religious organization which provides social services.

Certain Islamic quarters had accused the Catholic Relief Bureau of trying to convert Muslim poor in Lebanon and some other Arab countries into Christianity and of seeking to convert heathen black African tribes.

AFP: Swiss Charge d'Affaires Reported Freed
NC071958 Paris AFP in English 1950 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Beirut, Jan 7 (AFP) — The Swiss charge d'affaires in Beirut who had ben kidnapped Thursday was freed here today, a reliable source said. Eric Wehrli, the third secretary who was the acting chief of mission after Swiss Ambassador Paul-Andre Ramseyer was recalled to Berne last fall, was kidnapped near the Corniche al-Mazra'ah in West Beirut.

He was being driven from the embassy to his home in the early afternoon. Mr. Ramseyer returned to Beirut on Friday.

The identity of his captors had not been determined. Mr. Wehrli has been posted here since August 1982.

Druze Radio Confirms Release
NC072012 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Eric Wehrli, a Swiss Embassy adviser in Lebanon, was released at 2100 this evening. He visited Minister Nabih Birri at his home as soon as he was released. It should be recalled that the Swiss diplomat was kidnapped some time ago by gunmen in Beirut. Several contacts were held with various parties to secure the diplomat's safe release.

Senior French Observers' Official Killed
NC081237 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Colonel Jean Susini, commander of the French observers in Lebanon, said today that his assistant, Colonel (Latini), was killed at 2030 last night when he was leaving the Al-Snawbar Palace. Col Susini said that investigations are underway.

VOL: U.S. Amman Embassy Reportedly To Move
NC080633 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The United States is trying to transfer its embassy in Amman to a first-class hotel due to security reasons. The present embassy premises are located on a main street in the Jordanian capital. The transfer will provide the embassy with appropriate security conditions.

Committee of Kidnapped Persons Fail To Convene
NC071154 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] As the families of the kidnapped continue to block the crossing points at Al-Barbir, Al-Tayyunah, and Sodeco, a telephone contact took place between Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Minister Joseph al-Hashim. The discussions during the call dealt with the committee in charge of the kidnapped persons, which failed to meet today due to the withdrawal from the meeting of the socialist and Amal representatives. These representatives withdrew as a result of a battle of words between the socialist representative and a woman member of the families when he told her: We have not any kidnapped persons because we killed them all.

Ba'th Party Regional Congress Continues 7 Jan

JN071550 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The political, economic, and organizational committees stemming from the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's eighth regional congress resumed their meetings at 1000 today. The committees resumed their discussions of reports submitted by the party's Central Committee.

SANA has learned that the committees are expected to complete their discussions of the reports today. The party's eighth regional congress will hold a plenum this evening in order to continue its work.

Libya's Jallud Meets With Walid Junblatt

LD080454 Tripoli JANA in English 1736 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, Rabi Thani 17, Jan. 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmed Jallud met here last night with Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party and the Democratic National Front, in the presence of Asim Qansu, member of the Front and secretary general of the Lebanese Ba'th Party Organization, and Omar Harb, secretary of the Lebanese Social Union.

Meets With Khaddam, Habash

LD072151 Tripoli JANA in English 1805 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 17 Rabi Thani, 7 Jan, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A meeting was held this afternoon between Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Syrian Vice President Khaddam.

The meeting, which was held in the Syrian capital, was also attended by the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, George Habash.

AL-BA'TH on Al-Asad Speech, Future Arab Action

JN071251 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Under the headline "Leader Al-Asad Defined Action, and Renegades Expedite U.S. Solutions," *AL-BA'TH* says on its front page: In his historical speech the day before yesterday, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad clearly defined all the elements of steadfastness and confrontation to achieve victory over the enemies of the Arabs. At the same time, he revealed the policy of deception some Arabs practice to hold direct negotiations with Israel.

Only a few hours after leader Al-Asad's speech, which he presented to make the Arab masses aware of what is going on and what is covertly and overtly being planned against them and their national and pan-Arab causes, news agencies began to cite reports from Israeli, Egyptian, Jordanian, and pro-'Arafat Palestinian officials that intensive contacts among these parties have gradually begun to crystallize. It is worth mentioning that Husni Mubarak and Peres agreed to hold a summit meeting to study developments that followed the conclusion of the Amman divisionist council. These parties believe that they must reach some agreement on the basic principles for future talks between the Mubarak, Husayn, and 'Arafat regimes and Israel.

AL-BA'TH adds: Reports from Amman and Cairo do not envisage great difficulties that might prevent holding direct talks with Israel. Nevertheless, enemy Prime Minister Peres, who came to power through a U.S. and West European arrangement, announced yesterday that talks or negotiations must be through King Husayn and personalities from the West Bank. In fact this is exactly what 'Arafat and his clique, as well as King Husayn and Mubarak, want. As for the United States, this was its condition when it announced Reagan's plan in 1982. It is now being rumored that following his meeting with some Israelis and after exchanging several messages with Shim'on Peres, Mubarak has urged King Husayn and 'Arafat to move intensively on the Arab level to first get an agreement in principle from specific Arab regimes regarding the proposed negotiation process with the Zionist enemy. This would be done so that Mubarak, Husayn, and Hassan II can secure these agreements in principle before leaving for Washington in March.

AL-BA'TH says: It is not far-fetched that a call be launched to hold an Arab summit after the meeting of Hassan II, Husayn, and Mubarak to peddle this subject which is considered the first link of the conspiracy of liquidating the Palestinian cause and its people. What confirms that everything is proceeding to Israel's benefit and through the Egyptian regime is the announcement by 'Arafat's assistant Salah Khalaf yesterday that Egypt's return to the Arabs has become impossible and the Arabs have to accept this reality. This is what Khalaf has called for!

Thus leader Al-Asad was absolutely correct when he said that the attempts some Arabs are trying to carry out constitute the conspiracy itself. But at the same time he affirmed that the way to our rights is as clear as the sun, giving as an example the heroic operations the Lebanese national resistance is carrying out against the Zionist invaders. Al-Asad stressed an extremely important point: If the Arabs want to restore their rights, they have only to follow the example of the national resistance. We believe that the basis for confronting the Zionist occupation is more than available and only needs action for convening a summit that will provide the resistance and liberation requirements and not a summit for peddling U.S.-Israeli solutions.

AL-THAWRAH on Al-Naqurah Military Negotiations

JN081011 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 8 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Victory Will Be for Lebanon and its National Resistance," *AL-THAWRAH* says: The suspension of the Al-Naqurah talks reveals once again that Israel wants to use these talks to impose conditions on Lebanon that will harm

its sovereignty and enable Israel to achieve some of the aims of its invasion of Lebanon under the cover of the deployment of UN forces as far as the Al-Awwali River.

AL-THAWRAH adds: The purpose and dimensions of this Israeli extortionist maneuver are clear. Israel is working to confiscate the Lebanese Government's sovereignty over this part of Lebanon and to protect its forces of invasion and its agents in the south against the blows of the Lebanese national resistance.

In other words, Israel is trying, through maneuvers and blackmail in the Al-Naqurah talks, to resurrect the 17 May agreement and to activate some of its articles after Lebanon abrogated this humiliating agreement. By doing this, Lebanon has closed all doors to Zionist attempts that aim at bargaining over Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, unity, and Arabism.

Israel is trying, through campaigns of deception, to hold Lebanon responsible for the suspension of the talks due to the firmness of Lebanon's stand, while Israel forgets that it is an aggressive and occupying force and that Lebanon is asking for its right to liberate its territories and to implement the resolutions of the international community which calls for the unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist occupiers from Lebanon.

The failure of the Al-Naqurah talks to achieve an Israeli withdrawal is due to Israel's intransigence and nonabidance by the international community's will, as well as Israel's attempts, through maneuvers and blackmail, to impose political conditions on Lebanon and to interfere in its sovereignty and in the prerogatives of its government.

It is very natural that Lebanon should reject this Israeli blackmail and insist on its right to make the invaders pull out without restrictions or conditions.

Lebanon, which is firmly facing up to the Israeli intransigence and extortion, does not stand alone. Syria has stood by Lebanon, will continue to support Lebanon's stand in all fields, and will continue to support the Lebanese national resistance — this live and radiant page in the history of Lebanon and the Arab nation — in a way that will guarantee for Lebanon the liberation of its territories from the Israeli occupation and all its results. This will maintian Lebanon's unity, Arabism, independence, and sovereignty.

All facts, particularly in southern Lebanon, affirm that victory will be for Lebanon and its national resistance and that the Zionist aggression will only harvest failure and defeat.

Further Coverage of Al-Naqurah Talks With Lebanon

No Date Set for Next Meeting

TA071602 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Israel will pass on the reply by the Lebanese delegation to the government for decision. This was announced this afternoon by the head of the Israeli delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks, Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a. Since Lebanon's replies to today's talks were not satisfactory, a date for the next meeting in Al-Naqurah has not been set. Our military correspondent Gay Zohar reports.

[Begin recording][Zohar] It seems that the only matter which has made progress in Al-Naqurah is the guarding of the area — dogs have been added to the fences. The question is whether there will be anything left to guard. The Lebanese delegation brought its replies to the Israeli proposals submitted at the last meeting, more than 2 weeks ago. The Lebanese delegate [not further specified] delivered a long speech, the gist of which was that Israel should first present a withdrawal timetable and only then would there be talk about UNIFIL's deployment in the area to be evacuated. Brig Gen 'Amos Gilbo'a, the head of the Israeli delegation, reacted to this:

[Gilbo'a] We asked them about the bottomline; are they prepared to deploy most of the UNIFIL force between the Al-Zahrani and Al-Awwali Rivers? They did not deal with this issue at all. They simply evaded an answer to our demand, and therefore, most of their announcement, almost all of it, was not at all relevant to the demand we presented on 20 December.

[Zohar] Gilbo'a added that as the Lebanese had already been informed, the matter will be handed over to the government for consideration and decision.

[Gilbo'a] What happens next is that their proposal will be passed on to the higher echelons for consideration and examination, and a decision will then be made as to whether the talks will or will not be continued. As for this coming Thursday, I do not know whether we will or will not meet. We will maintain contacts with Callaghan [the UN force commander] on this issue.

[Zohar] In its announcement, Israel notes Lebanon's readiness to meet again. In other words, the only positive matter is their readiness to continue the talks. The head of the Israeli delegation said the following on this:

[Gilbo'a] In my opinion, there is first and foremost a Syrian interest here that the talks continue and be drawn out, without any progress or achievement for us.

[Zohar] The ball is now in the hands of the Israeli Government then. It will now have to make a unilateral decision — continue the political initiative or unilaterally withdraw to one line or another. It seems that only a substantive change in the Lebanese stance will bring Israel back to the briefings hall here in Al-Naqurah. [end recording]

Cabinet To Discuss Lebanon

TA080605 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Excerpts] The Cabinet will be called within the next few days for urgent consultations on the situation in Lebanon. This follows the stalemate at the renewed Al-Naqurah talks yesterday between the Israeli and Lebanese delegations, and has added "a new sense of urgency to the need to reach some decision on Lebanon soon," a senior source told *THE JERUSALEM POST* last night.

Israel will not issue notice of a suspension of the talks which resumed after the year-end recess, but neither will it specify a date for their resumption. *THE POST* was told.

Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is due to travel to the U.S. in less than three weeks. Reliable Israeli sources said "there is no guarantee that a final decision on a redeployment will not have been made by then. Two-and-a-half weeks," the source added, "is a long time, and I feel that we will move before then."

Next Meeting in Doubt

TA080825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0820 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The Israeli delegation will not go to Al-Naqurah on 10 January for a continuation of the talks with the Lebanese representatives. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer comments that this was decided this morning by the defense establishment after having analyzed the Lebanese position in yesterday's talks. In the discussion over Lebanon's answer, it transpired, in the view of political sources, that the Lebanese representatives evaded answering Israel's questions to gain time. As stated, consequently, the Israeli delegation will not go to Al-Naqurah on 10 January. Tomorrow the prime minister will convene the ministers to discuss Israel's future moves; political sources think that the discussions will last for several days, and as long as they are not concluded, there is no point in the Al-Naqurah talks continuing.

Arens on Solution of Lebanese Problem

TA051008 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Interview with Minister Moshe Arens by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text][Tal] Mr Minister, the Israeli and Lebanese delegation will meet at the beginning of next week at Al-Naqurah. Do you believe there are already signs that Lebanon has changed some, any, or all its positions regarding the components of the agreement as presented by Israel?

[Arens] I do not know; I do not consider myself an expert interpreter of their signals. However, I think we should not exaggerate the importance we attach to their positions. We

should bear in mind that we signed an agreement with the Lebanese Government on 17 May 1983 and they simply reneged on this agreement later. We have been burned once, so I think we should be shy the second time around and not overemphasize the importance of their positions.

[Tal] Are you actually saying that no agreement with Lebanon is important?

[Arens] I would not be so absolute and drastic but we certainly need not attach too much importance to their positions and to agreements with them.

[Tal] Seeing that we are talking about their positions, do you believe that the Lebanese Army — which they have been trying to send to the south — will be able to carry out the missions we think the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] should fulfill, particularly in view of its record in other operations?

[Arens] I am sure it will not be able to do that and I imagine that not even one Israeli will dispute this assessment. The Lebanese Army does not control any part of Lebanon at present, not even those areas of Lebanon which are not under the IDF's control. Military units rather than the Lebanese Army currently control Lebanon — the Syrian Army in those areas of Lebanon which have been taken over by the Syrians; and the Druze militia, the Christian militia, or the Amal militia in other areas. In any case, it is not the Lebanese Army that is in control. In view of the fact that they are unable to enfore order even in the surroundings of Beirut — near the site of the Lebanese Government — who can expect them to enforce order in southern Lebanon?

[Tal] How do you see the chances of the direct and indirect talks and contacts with Syria? Why should Syria actually want Israel to make any achievements whatsoever in southern Lebanon?

[Arens] I think there are people in Israel who should know better and who have for months been arguing — also during the time I was defense minister — that all that is needed is to reach an arrangement with Syria, that the Syrians want to attain such an agreement, and that we have actually not tried hard enough to establish contact with them. Also in the past we have tried to examine such a possibility, and such efforts have certainly been made recently at the Al-Naqurah talks. Finally, something which should have been clear from the outset became clear to everyone — the Syrians are not interested in any arrangement whatsoever; Syria is not a country friendly to Israel; Al-Asad is not a friend of Israel, but exactly the opposite, he is an enemy; the Syrians have a large military force; they declare that they are in a state of war with us; they send PLO units to attack us; they encourage terrorist operations against the IDF in southern Lebanon. I think we have no reason to assume that the Syrians want to reach any kind of arrangement with us, particularly in view of the fact that they believe — to a certain extent, justifiably so — that we will get out of Lebanon without any agreement or security arrangements whatsoever.

[Tal] Consequently, do you think that the plans to reach an agreement with the Syrians were unfounded?

[Arens] I do not think they should be described as plans. An attempt was made, and I do not know that we have lost anything by making such an attempt. However, I think there were really no grounds to expect this attempt to succeed. I think that it is clear to everyone that this attempt failed.

[Tal] What will happen if in the Al-Naqurah talks at the beginning of next week we realize that the Lebanese do not accept Israel's minimal demands regarding the ASL and the deployment of UNIFIL? Where would you like to go from there in such a case?

[Arens] In such a case, we should simply go ahead with what we had been doing before we began the Al-Naqurah talks. We have been assisting the ASL and helping it expand, strengthen, and take over larger areas in southern Lebanon. By doing that, we would ease the burden the IDF is currently bearing.

[Tal] How do you regard the possibility of unilateral Israeli moves?

[Arens] The activities I mentioned are unilateral moves. We are helping the ASL and this does not depend on the cooperation of the Lebanese Government, and certainly not on that of the Syrians, because we would not get such collaboration. We have adopted these unilateral moves to ensure our — and only our — goal which is the security of the Galilee inhabitants.

[Tal] And what about the physical departure of the IDF soldiers from Lebanon?

[Arens] The sooner we manage to transfer the burden in southern Lebanon from the IDF to the ASL, the easier it will be to cut the number of IDF troops which will have to remain in southern Lebanon.

[Tal] Do you favor a phased withdrawal, to one line and then to another, and later to the international border?

[Arens] I do not know where the notion of a phased withdrawal comes from; it may be your idea. However, I must tell you this is a very bad idea. Our situation in southern Lebanon, and consequently the situation of the Galilee population, depends on the joint activities of Israel and the local population in southern Lebanon, the joint operations of the IDF and the ASL, which is a Lebanese military unit. If you tell the population in southern Lebanon — regardless of whether they are Shi'ite, Christians, or Druze — from the outset that you are going to effect a phased pullout and that you are going to deploy along a certain line, but only for a few weeks, and that you will later move away, it is clear that given the conditions in southern Lebanon — where there are extremists and Khomeynists who terrorize anyone cooperating with us — no one will be able to, or want to, work with us. And after all, none of us wants that.

[Tal] I would like to remind you that a little over 1 year ago you were the one who pulled the IDF out of the Al-Shuf area and deployed it along the Al-Awwali line.

[Arens] Yes, certainly. I did not tell you that I am totally opposed to a deployment along another line; you said that, not I. I said

that I am categorically opposed to making a statement that we will be deploying along a certan line and that this would be a stage in anticipation of another withdrawal. I told you that to attain the cooperation of the local population and the ASL, and an effective performance of the ASL in the field, you cannot deploy your forces with a certain formula and at the same time declare that this is actually a temporary deployment, that you are going to leave the area and the population at the hands of those replacing us, who would presumably be hostile forces.

We decided to get out of the Al-Shuf area after we reached an accord and understanding with the Druze that terrorists would not be allowed to settle in the Al-Shuf area or operate against the IDF from there. This accord and understanding has actually been in effect since then. Almost 18 months have elapsed and I think none of us regrets our pullout from the Al-Shuf area. We have not had any significant problems with attacks against the IDF launched from the Al-Shuf area. Were we to reach a similar understanding with the Shi'ites it would certainly be good, and this would enable us to pull out from other areas in southern Lebanon. To our deep regret, we have not reached any similar understandings with the Shi'ites; not because we did not try. We did try when I was defense minister and I presume that efforts are also being made during Yitzhaq Rabin's tenure; we also realize the reason for this.

[Tal] What do you think are the differences within the government, between the Likud and the Labor Party, regarding an arrangement in Lebanon, a withdrawal, and a redeployment? Are there any differences?

[Arens] First of all, I would be very surprised if different approaches to this issue within the government ran along the political lines of the parties composing the government, because the question of our deployment in Lebanon and the way to ensure the security of the Galilee population is not an ideological one; neither Hayim Weizman nor Jabotinsky had an answer to this; this is simply a tactical question. Therefore, it would not come as a surprise if you found a member of the Likud and a member of the Labor Party who share the same view, whether this view calls for maintaining the current deployment or whether it calls for changing the present deployment.

The Cabinet has actually not held a debate on this issue. Therefore, I could not — and even if I could, I would not — tell you what the views within the government are exactly and what the ministers of the Likud or the Alignment think. The Cabinet has not yet held a comprehensive and thorough debate about a possible redeployment in the wake of a termination of the talks at Al-Naqurah because it was decided that we should wait and see the results of these talks and only later hold such a debate.

Lahd Prepared To Take Over Southern Lebanon

TA080702 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The Al-Naqurah talks will continue to limp forward, in the hope that the United States and the United Nations will work out some sort of plan. In the meantime, General Antoine Lahd, the commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], has said his army is already prepared to assume authority over the entire area to be evacuated by the IDF south of the Al-Awwali River.

In an interview for our morning newsreel, Lahd said he expects Israel to consult with him before any decisions are made, so that he will not be forced to make unilateral decisions. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht spoke with Lahd in his general staff headquarters in southern Lebanon.

[Begin Hecht recording] Several of the Israeli officers who are working in close proximity with General Lahd have described him as a cold, sober fish. They know the man has a very definite evaluation of the situation; he examines the risks and chances very carefully, and he cannot be taken for granted within the framework of any security arrangement.

Lahd does not get too worked up over statements by Israeli politicians. He has heard several of them demanding that the ASL be disbanded, while others have sworn loyalty to that army. After all, they have to supply the newspapers with material; he smiles.

He knows the general framework of the ideas for the security arrangements, but he says: To date, no one has discussed the details of the new deployment with me. I expect that before any decision whatsoever is made, the details will be discussed with us.

There is more than a trace of a demand in this expectation voiced by the general. He said: If decisions are made which are not in southern Lebanon's interests, I will oppose them.

What did he mean by oppose? I asked: Will you protest? Will you resign? What exactly will you do?

The general said: I will appeal directly to the Israeli public, since it knows that this is not yet the time to fire with all cannons.

However, at the same time, Lahd's message is clear: I will explain to the Israeli public the differences in approach, then everyone will have to bear the responsibility for the results of his decisions.

Gen Antoine Lahd is not interested in being the commander of a narrow strip like that which was under Haddad's control. For that, a major is sufficient, one of his aides said. The general stated: The ASL is already prepared to carry out the routine security missions throughout the area to be evacuated by the IDF south of the Al-Awwali River.

He stressed: Israel must see to arrangements that will stop the Syrians and extremist organizations under Libyan and Iranian patronage from threatening the calm and order in southern Lebanon from the outside. We will maintain our links with the IDF, links that are based on common interests.

He admitted that Israel is still financing a considerable part of the ASL's activity, but that they have succeeded in organizing a broad system of tax collection and within a reasonable period of time, he promised, they will be able to finance most of the expenses from their own sources. [end recording]

Political Factions Call for Withdrawal From Lebanon

Labor's Edri Urges Pullout

PM071650 Paris LE MONDE in French 27 Dec 84 pp 1,3

[Jean-Pierre Langellier dispatch: "Israel Should Withdraw Unilaterally From Lebanon"]

[Text] Jerusalem — "I want our Army to withdraw from Lebanon fully and unilaterally. In the absence of a perfect solution, this will be the lesser evil. I oppose a withdrawal in stages. We no longer have anything to do there."

Mr Rafi Edri, chairman of the Labor Party parliamentary group, thinks the matter is clear — the Israeli Army should leave Lebanon as quickly as possible. According to him, there is no point in delay. Since the Al-Naqurah military negotiations became bogged down as a result of Lebanese inflexibility dictated by Damascus, the ball is now in Israel's court.

During an interview in his Knesset office, Mr Edri, the Labor Party's rising star, stressed the urgent need for an initiative. "For nearly 1 year," he told us, "our party has solemnly advocated withdrawal from Lebanon. Meanwhile nothing has really changed the situation. The abrogation of the 17 May agreement was to be expected. Since then we have fought an election campaign on this theme. Now that we are in office, it is high time we kept our word."

The leader of the Labor Party deputies faithfully reflected the feeling which now predominates in the government party's ranks. On Monday, 24 December, Labor Party deputies started an internal debate on this subject during which 5 out of the 10 deputies who spoke expressed a desire for a complete withdrawal from Lebanon. This discussion will be continued in the next few days.

The deadlock reached in Al-Naqurah and the failure of the mission undertaken by Mr Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, turned the Labor deputies' weariness into resigned impatience.

"On 7 January (the date fixed for the resumption of the Al-Naqurah negotiations — *LE MONDE* editor's note), if nothing new has happened by then, the government must decide on a withdrawal," Mr Edri stressed. "This will take effect within 6 to 9 months. I even hope it will be quicker."

Mr Edri knows that a minority of Labor Party officials are hesitating, even refusing, to take such a step in the absence of security arrangements. This is true, for instance, of Mr Motta Gur, minister of health and former Army chief of staff. "They must bow to the majority," he said. Prime Minister Shimon Peres recently twice advocated complete withdrawal from Lebanon if the Al-Naqurah negotiations failed. However he did not take a final decision because he was anxious over the slim chance the deadlock in discussions might be broken.

What about Likud? The attitude of Mr Shamir's party, which is in favor of withdrawal to an intermediate line, poses problems for the Labor Party. "We are going to discuss all this with our partners," Mr Edri predicted, "and we will try to win them over."

"Essentially," he quipped, "Syria may expect Likud to hinder our plans and carry out the task of obstruction in its place."

In Mr Edri's view, the Jerusalem government should show a spirit of initiative in another sphere — that of relations with Jordan. "There is something new in the air," he remarked. "Addressing the recent PNC meeting, King Husayn said things which we regard as positive. In particular he asked the PLO to opt openly for negotiation, stressing that time was working against it. Although these statements are inadequate, they are not without significance. We must be patient. We cannot send a peace plan to Husayn through the mail and ask him for his agreement by return."

"We must also take account of regional changes," Mr Edri said. "The reconciliation between Cairo and Amman, the American-Iraqi normalization, and Syria's increased isolation, are not bad for Israel. We constantly ask Husayn to understand us, but we must try to understand him in return. Let us stop repeating that nothing can be done. Let us try to do something. We have nothing to lose."

The Labor Party has to overcome Likud's reservations on this subject too. "The search for dialogue with Jordan is entirely in keeping with the government agreement," Mr Edri stressed, before concluding knowingly, "and then our party has the wind in its sails at present. We must take advantage of the balance of forces."

Demonstrators Demand IDF Withdrawal

TA071930 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] A few thousand supporters of Peace Now and the Parents Against Silence organization demonstrated this afternoon opposite the Knesset and demanded the immediate withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon. Knesset members from the Alignment, MAPAM, Shinuy, the Citizens Rights Movement, and the Progressive List for Peace joined in the demonstration. A small group of the Israel Now Movement took up a position opposite the demonstrators.

Southern Lebanese Fearful of IDF Withdrawal

TA072015 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1945 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Al-Naqurah, 7 Jan (ITIM) — The ITIM correspondent in the north reports that the termination of the Al-Naqurah talks caused great tension among many southern Lebanese residents who fear that this time Israel will take unilateral steps, as promised by its leaders. Notables from all parts of Lebanon asked IDF liaison units whether the termination of the talks means an Israel withdrawal or whether other arrangements are still possible.

The IDF clarified to them that at present Israel is not taking any steps whatsoever.

Peres on Tabah Talks, Lebanon, Jordan, Economy

TA071540 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Jerusalem, 7 Jan (ITIM) — A meeting between Israeli and Egyptian representatives will take place in Beersheba next week to prepare the negotiations on the stationing of UN forces in the disputed Tabah area. This was disclosed by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres who was hosted by the Union of Spokesmen at a meeting at the Information Center in Jerusalem. Mr Peres stressed that even though no immediate results are expected from this preliminary Israeli-Egyptian meeting, it should be seen as a resumption of negotiations between the two countries.

Responding to a question, Mr Peres expressed his satisfaction with President Mubarak's latest remarks which were relayed in the United States. The president had voiced his wish for a dialogue and cooperation with the Israeli prime minister. "I was favorably surprised by Mubarak," the prime minister said. Mr Peres stressed that the positive attitude of the Egyptian president helps to promote a mutually favorable atmosphere which may contribute to peace.

As for the Al-Naqurah talks in Lebanon, the prime minister said that Israel has not presented the other party with any ultimatum. However, considering the fruitless results, "it is necessary to draw conclusions on the Al-Naqurah talks," Peres said. He stressed that Israel is trying to obtain security for Galilee in any manner possible, whether by means of an agreement or at least an arrangement, so that the IDF can return home.

Responding to a question on Jordan's position, Mr Peres said that this country is still waiting for the PLO's reply to King Husayn's initiative and proposal concerning negotiations on the basis of UN Resolution 242.

Mr Peres believes that considering the state of the PLO, which is crumbling inside and outside, it must be supposed that the answer will be either evasive or negative. "The Jordanians will soon understand that they are waiting in vain for a positive answer from the PLO; then, there may be a chance for a dialogue between Israel and Jordan," Mr Peres said.

On the economic issue, the prime minister said he is optimistic that Israel will surmount the current crisis and will emerge stronger, reinforced, and more stable. The prime minister said that the main economic organizations that have underwritten the package deal should reach an agreement on a second deal even prior to the termination of the first package deal at the end of this month. He believes that the new package deal should include more economic organizations, and could be more demanding and last longer.

Answering a question on the activity for amending the law of return to determine "who is a Jew," the prime minister said that an effort will be made in the coming days to talk with the religious parties and circles to find a common denominator and to come to an agreement acceptable to all on this issue, to prevent a split among the people.

Tabah Talks With Egypt To Last 3 Days

TA081051 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1041 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The talks that are to be held next week between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations on the matter of Tabah will last for 3 consecutive days. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the delegations may be headed by senior officials from the foreign ministries, and not by military men. At noon the director general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, held consultations in preparation for the talks.

No Demonstration at Egyptian Consulate Allowed

TA071547 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1526 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Jerusalem, 7 Jan (ITIM) — The commander of the Southern District, Commander Avraham Turgeman, refused to approve a protest demonstration by Knesset Member Meir Kahane and KAKH movement activists opposite the house of the Egyptian consul in Elat on 8 January. However, Turgeman has given them permission to hold a rally in the center of Elat.

Commander Turgeman explained his refusal by saying that the consulate also serves as the private home of Consul Hasan 'Isa. In addition, there are also grounds for believing that a rally at that place might harm relations between Israel and Egypt.

The commander of the Southern District has informed the KAKH members of his decision.

Secret Alignment-Likud Agreement on Law of Return

TA071029 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by Nadav Shragay]

[text] The Alignment and the Likud have reached a secret understanding according to which an amendment to the law of return on the question of "Halakic conversion" would not be put to a vote in the Knesset in the next few weeks. It was learned about the existence of this agreement after Minister Moshe Shahal, who had been hesitating on whether to leave for overseas, finally departed after receiving a promise from Likud leaders Yitzhaq Shamir and Moshe Nisim that the issue would not be put to a vote. Nisim even promised Shahal that he would vote against the amendment if it is put to a vote and cautioned some Likud members who have been working on the amendment of the law.

Knesset Member Menahem Porush of Agudat Yisra'el last night sharply criticized the secret agreement reached by the Likud and the Alignment "behind the backs of the religious parties." Porush said that the religious Knesset members would hold an urgent meeting this morning on the issue.

The Alignment and the Likud have even formulated a compromise proposal regarding the amendment to the law which reads as follows: "Every conversion performed abroad will have to be approved by a special court which will be formed in Israel to that effect."

Continued Coverage of Ethiopian Jew Rescue Operation

Peres Rejects Criticism

TA071216 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] I would like to see everyone dealing with the great rescue operation, rather than with the scandal that accompanied it, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated in reaction to the criticism levelled against him and his office regarding the publication of the immigration of the Ethiopian Jews. Peres said that he is not impressed by the criticism, and that he would react to it from the Knesset podium tomorrow. The prime minister was speaking in a meeting of the Union of Spokesmen. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel was also there:

[Begin recording] [Frankel] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres abided by the line adopted by him and his office yesterday to not exacerbate the accusations exchanged regarding the publication of the immigration of the Ethiopian Jews, to not respond to the complaints against the government and him personally, but to try to soothe tempers. Despite the argument revolving around the issue, we must not ignore the main point and that is that there is immigration. This is a rescue operation which will continue and which will not end before it has been fully completed. Peres was asked to react to the accusation that he approved the news conference held last Thursday afternoon, which began the wave of reports on the issue, both in Israel and abroad.

[Peres] Since no one approved what has taken place either — and I am not complaining about this — I am not impressed by the criticism and I also have no complaint about it. I will apparently deliver an announcement to the Knesset tomorrow, and at that time I will say whatever I have to say on the matter. I, personally, would like to see people dealing with the great rescue operation rather than with the scandal that accompanied it every night on the television screen.

[Frankel] Another dispute regarding the affair of the Ethiopian Jews — the prime minister was asked about the differences of opinion between the government and the Jewish Agency regarding the financing of the immigration operation. Here is his reply:

[Peres] After all, it is not the institution but the objective that counts. What difference does it make which institution will be in charge of the absorption? I can only say that despite the current economic situation, the government has allocated very significant sums to immediately overcome the housing problems. I have heard that some leaders of local authorities say that the immigrants arrived as thieves in the night. What did they want? That they should come in broad daylight, under the limelight of the media? It is clear that when such a large number of immigrants arrived, we had to look for every possible empty place to house them. A significant number of immigrants was involved, and they kept arriving continuously.

Today, all of us — the government and the Jewish Agency together — must set for ourselves only one objective — to make sure that they are absorbed in an appropriate, full, and dignified manner. When I say dignified manner, I mean with respect for the wishes of the immigrants themselves; their wishes should not be ignored. [end recording]

Peres To Address Knesset

TA071223 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The prime minister will deliver an address to the Knesset plenum tomorrow regarding the reports about the immigration of Ethiopian Jews. A debate will not be held. The Citizens Rights Movement and the Tehiya have abandoned their proposals to submit motions of no confidence in the government.

Speaking in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated that restraint should be exercised in the affair of the Ethiopian Jews. David Magen suggested that a commission of inquiry be set up at once to look into the leaked reports. Shevah Weiss and Eliyahu Ben-Elisar opposed this proposal and said it would be better for the Knesset to help cool down the issue, and Yitzhaq Shamir seconded this proposal. The committee did not pass any resolution.

The prime minister's office has asked the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee not to meet tomorrow to discuss the publication of the affair. However, the committee chairman has not yet decided whether to call off the meeting.

Knesset Committee Discusses Rescue

TA071834 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Sharp criticism was levelled in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee meeting today about the publicity given to the operation to rescue Ethiopian Jews. Demands to investigate the matter have also been raised. Yitzhaq Shamir, the vice prime minister and foreign minister, said that Israel has gained notoriety in the sphere of keeping national secrets. Our correspondent in the Knesset, Sha'ul Stav, reports about the meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee:

[Begin recording] The release of information on the operation to rescue the Ethiopian Jews was at the center of attention at today's Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee meeting. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that for a long time there had been pressure on Israeli representatives overseas to obtain information about the Ethiopian Jews, but everyone kept silent on the issue. It was very difficult to keep this secret, Shamir said, because there were many parties to it, but we had to keep quiet. In the wake of the disclosure of the operation, we have again learned that there is a difference between local and world reports, between official and unofficial reports. There is no doubt, Shamir said, that it was a mistake to publicize the matter, but it is my belief that no harm was intended. We must now make efforts to complete the operation.

Shamir took advantage of the opportunity given him today to generalize on the issue of secrecy and leaks. We have simply forgotten how to keep quiet; the situation in the sphere of keeping national secrets is deteriorating. Israel is today notorious in this sphere.

Likud Knesset Member [MK] Dan Meridor was less restrained than the foreign minister regarding the disclosure of the affair.

Since the matter became public, Meridor said, I have been in a state of shock. For 7 years the operation had been conducted secretly, the important thing being the cause itself and not its publicity. Now, however, there are different practices among the ruling circles; publicity has become the main point. What has happened here? Meridor asked. Did some official want to publicize somebody's name? Have we descended so low?

MK Yosi Sarid demanded that the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee set up an investigatory committee; since we cannot sit idly by in view of this publicity. He said that his faction, the Citizens Rights Movement, will strike the motion of no confidence it submitted against the government on this issue, not because of the strange and weak explanations provided by the prime minister, but because of fear for the lives of the Jews in Ethiopia.

MK David Magen also demanded that an ivestigatory committee be set up, but MK's Weiss and Ben-Elisar wanted to tone down matters and expressed opposition to the establishment of such a committee. MK Shemtov said that everything must be done to strike the issue from the agenda so as to rescue what can still be saved. [end recording]

Peres: Craxi Middle East Analysis 'Realistic'

AU080836 Rome ANSA in English 0800 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, January 8 — Israeli Premier Shim'on Peres finds the analysis of the Mideast question expounded by Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi in a recent letter to the Israeli Government leader as being "realistic", according to Italian Minister for Tourism and Entertainment Lelio Lagorio.

In a statement released by Lagorio's office here yesterday, after briefing Craxi on his recent visit to Tel Aviv, the Italian minister, who was in Israel to firm up a series of agreements on cultural and tourist affairs, said Peres also described Craxi's assessments as "positive".

The assessments Peres was referring to were based on Craxi's recent visits to a number of Arab capitals, including Tunis where the prime minister and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti met PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

"In his letter," Lagorio reported, "Craxi made a complete analysis of the Middle Eastern situation and the concrete prospects for reactivating the negotiating process, in the light of the assessments he derived from his talks, including the meeting with 'Arafat".

According to Lagorio, Peres also showed interest in Italy's success in bringing down its inflation rate over the last year.

Observers Comment on Mubarak Visit to Jordan

TA051959 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] Jordan's King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak held a surprise meeting today in Aqaba. The previously unannounced meeting followed by 2 days a meeting Husayn held with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. Mubarak was accompanied by his Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and the presidential adviser, Usamah al-Baz. The Egyptian leader is due to visit the U.S. in March, during which time he is expected to urge President Reagan to bring the PLO into the peace process.

Israeli observers say President Mubarak is interested in improving relations with the Gulf states, following his rapprochement with Jordan. In particular, the Egyptian leader would apparently like to visit the region. The observers told reporter David Essing that Mubarak may also wish to bolster his prestige as leader of the moderate Arab states before his upcoming visit to Washington.

Jerusalem Arabic on Jordanian-USSR Arms Deal

JN072011 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 7 Jan 85

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] The statement Staff General Zayd ibn Shakir made in his speech at the opening of the 26th command and staff course on the Soviet arms deal, and on other deals with Britain and France, is neither new nor a surprise to observers in the region. This statement once again shows Jordan's old desire to diversify its arms sources since last March, when Washington refused to supply Jordan with sophisticated U.S. weapons, particularly the Stinger and Hawk missiles and F-16 planes.

After this U.S. rejection, Jordanian officials began to search for arms in the East and West. According to Western reports, the USSR suggested supplying Jordan with surface-to-air SA-10 and SA-14 missiles to confront the continued Syrian threat to Amman. It is known that the Syrian Air Force is superior to the Jordanian Air Force. We should point out here that the USSR showed neither rejection nor acceptance of the Jordanian-Egyptian rapprochement which escalated in the wake of the two countries resuming diplomatic relations.

The Jordanian Armed Forces commander in chief, who spoke about the Soviet, British, and French arms deals, also talked about the financial difficulties and limited resources his country is facing. On this basis, it now seems that Jordan prefers the Soviet arms, because the Kremlin's conditions are good and convenient for reinforcing its presence in Jordan.

In its editorial today, the Jordanian newspaper *AL-DUSTUR* implicitly attacks the United States, which refused — as a result of the so-called Zionist pressure — to respond to some of Jordan's armament needs. Editorializing on the air defense system deal with the USSR, the newspaper says that the deal emphasizes to all concerned that countries which have limited resources, but are determined to defend their legitimate rights to possess legitimate defense means, can reject the policy of extortion exercised against them in the fields of arms and food and in other similar fields. Observers ask: Is the attack in *AL-DUSTUR*, which expresses the Jordanian leaders' policy, a continuation of King Husayn's bitter and strong criticism of U.S. policy in the region,

after it refused to supply his country with sophisticated U.S. weapons?

Regarding the British and French deals which Staff General Zayd ibn Shakir announced — the nature of which he did not identify — it is known that the Jordanian Army is armed with Soviet surface-to-air SA-8 missiles, British tanks, and French warplanes. It is also known that Paris expressed readiness to supply Jordan with Mirage 2000, or F-1 planes, with air-to-air missiles, and with an air defense system.

The observers believe that after signing the air defense system deal with the USSR, scores of Soviet experts are expected to be positioned in Jordan. This situation may prompt the United States to show more intransigence regarding supplying Jordan with sophisticated U.S. weapons. However, the observers also believe that Amman will be more alert, so that the Soviet arms deal will not be exploited to obtain deep Soviet infiltration or the Soviet experts' presence in the Jordanian Army's ranks. This situation would undermine stability enjoyed by King Husayn's regime.

Samaria Leader Complains of Development Freeze

TA072027 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1915 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Elon More, 7 Jan (ITIM) — There is a freeze in building and expanding existing Judaea and Samaria settlements, and only about 30 percent of the building is being carried out. The construction of public institutions has been completely frozen and regional schools are short 75 classrooms. The students are meeting in trailers, stores, and industrial buildings.

The head of the Samaria Regional Council, Beni Qatzover, said during a tour of the area today by journalists, that dozens of investors who had wanted to set up industrial plants in Samaria cancelled their plans because they could not get an attentive ear and were rejected by the Industry and Trade Ministry. Some of them have already set up plants within the Green Line boundaries.

The Jewish Agency's Settlement Department has stopped its support for agricultural endeavours and farms. Except for vital and urgent commodities, the Jewish Agency has stopped sending development funds to the region. The Defense Ministry froze a plan for paving the Nabulus bypass road which is meant to keep the vehicles traveling from Jerusalem northward away from the heart of Nabulus.

The ITIM correspondent reports that NAHAL settlements are not being set up in the region, and according to Qatzover, it is planned to uproot the 'Irit settlement in northern Samaria. Defense Ministry circles rejected this claim. According to Qatzover, the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department was asked to help since it was instructed by the Finance Ministry to reduce its budget from $35 to $26 million only. [sentence as received] Qatzover complained that of the 200 plants appearing in the Industry and Trade Ministry's records, none is in Samaria. He also claimed that the Religious Affairs Ministry rejects the settlers.

The head of the Samaria Regional Council welcomed the good relations which have developed with the villagers in the area, emphasizing the existing social and economic cooperation. He also praised the IDF's action in maintaining order and security in the region.

Shamir Warns Against Postponing Settlement Decision

TA071027 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by Uri'el Ben-'Ami]

[Text] Representatives of the Council of Settlements in Judaea and Samaria have recently met with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and presented him with an ultimatum on the establishment of new settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

The settlers told Shamir that if the Cabinet does not make a decision by Wednesday they would proceed on their own and would "no longer regard the Likud as their representative in the government." The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that Vice Prime Minister Shamir asked the settlers not to proceed in the spirit of Sabastiyah [reference to Gush Emunim settlement established without the government's approval several years ago] and wait for the decision which would apparently be passed this week.

Shamir promised the settlers that if a positive decision on the establishment of settlements is not made by the end of this week, the Likud will bring down the government.

The *DAVAR* correspondent points out that the settlers held these contacts with Shamir secretly and have refused to disclose the names of the representatives who attended the meeting. Nevertheless, the *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that the settlers acceded to compromise in the first stage on the establishment of two settlements — one on the mountain ridge and another within the "Allon Plan" — to set a precedent in the field according to which the unity government would also establish settlements on the mountain ridge.

Weizman Changes Arab Affairs Office

TA072058 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, Binyamin Gur-Arye, has been dismissed. Dr Yosef Ginat, who is the head of the Israel studies department at the Haifa University, will replace him. This evening, Knesset Member Refa'el Eytan of Tehiya protested the dismissal of Gur-Arye, expressing his fear that the dissmissal had come about for irrelevant reasons. Details on the dismissal are given by our correspondent Gil Sadan in the studio:

This evening, a rare debate was held in the prime minister's office. It centered around the subject and the manning of the office of the adviser on Arab affairs. This reflects a new stage in 'Ezer Weizman's attempt to give new substance to the handling of Israeli Arab affairs. The present adviser, Binyamin Gur-Arye, was summoned to Minister Weizman this morning, and was

asked to leave his post. Gur-Arye, who has filled this post for 11 years, answered that he should not leave of his own will; since he is a public servant, he does not recognize the dismissal as legally binding. He then said that if he were compelled to leave his post, he would resume it when Yitzhaq Shamir was prime minister.

Thus, a story of reshuffle in the prime minister's office turned into a story smelling of political dismissal. 'Ezer Weizman, the minister in charge of Israeli Arab affairs, has prepared the reorganization of handling Arab affairs for many months, and has tried as much as possible to postpone personnel changes. It was only now that the final decision was made to dismiss Gur-Arye and appoint Dr Yosef Ginat, who was a former deputy adviser on Arab affairs, an anthropologist, and an Arabist whose expertise is Bedouin life and the triangle villages. The prime minister agreed to the changes, but to judge from reactions by Gur-Arye and other political officals, one may find that the last word on this issue has not yet been said.

Minister Moda'i Favors Additional Budget Cuts

TA041720 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1747 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Rehovot, 4 Jan (ITIM) — The negative trend in the Israeli economy began in 1973 when economic growth stopped, and now there is no way out of the crisis without cutting $2 million from the state budget, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said today in a lecture to the Rehovot Economic Club.

The finance minister said that only by cutting the government's expenses could the inflationary process feeding the gap in the balance of payments be stopped.

Mr Moda'i said the struggles by groups of salaried workers and people employed in services were not to maintain salaries in real terms, but to increase their salaries, a phenomenon which he called the "suicidal wars of the Israeli economy that have been afflicting us since 1973."

Out of all this, only one balloon burst, and that was the bank shares, he said. The finance minister also said that since taking office he had insisted that true data be published about the state of the economy, while his predecessors had not always done this. He had rejected all proposals to use "cosmetics" to make the data more acceptable.

The minister said the $220 million drop in the December foreign currency reserves is arousing concern. However, he pointed out that there had been an increase in exports for the first time in a long time and private consumption had also decreased.

In contrast to this, public consumption continued to increase last month, so that the "distortion is entirely in the government's hands," he said.

"This situation requires a cut of $2 billion from the budget, otherwise there will be nothing in it to cover the deficits," Mr Moda'i warned, recalling that the government owes $35 billion to the country's citizens, although it had not received this sum from the citizens. At the same time, he emphasized that the government would keep its domestic and foreign commitments in full.

"How is this to be done?" the finance minister asked, then answered: "We will take it from you." He said the burden would fall on the citizens and this would involve cutting back services now provided free, such as education and health.

"What country pays children's and old age allowances without examining personal assets?" the minister asked, and recalled, "We will not wait until 1988."

"We have not yet cut back where we should have and there is no other cure for the Israeli economy than to cut $2 billion from the budget for the period of the next 18 months," he said.

"We have succeeded in making decisions, but we have not succeeded in implementing them," he admitted. "This will not help anyone and I regret that this is being expressed in the situation developing in the hospitals, the schools, and development investments. There is simply no alternative."

"It is not easy to cut," Mr Moda'i said, "but the country has enormous economic power that will enable it to stand up to the pressures that have accumulated, to recover, and return to economic growth."

Suspects Indicted for Planned Attack on U.S. Embassy

TA061346 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1321 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] An indictment was submitted today in the Tel Aviv District Court against the people suspected of planning to attack the U.S. Embassy. The indictment that was submitted today against four Arabs, residents of the Gaza Strip, two of them minors, claims that they were in possession of four IDF hand grenades which they kept in an abandoned house in Nes Ziyyona. In the indictment, the prosecutor says that the accused planned to throw two of the four hand grenades at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. The two others were to be thrown at Israeli vehicles in Nabulus.

The four are accused of, among other things, plotting, carrying out banned military exercises, and causing damage to foreign relations. Our correspondent Yaron Deqel reports that the prosecutor wants the four to be detained until the legal procedures are concluded.

ALGERIA

Prime Minister Leaves for Bulgaria, Greece

LD071309 Algiers APS in English 1109 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Algiers 7/01/85 (APS) — Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate Politburo member and prime minister, today left Algiers for Sofia, the first step of the official visit which will lead him to Bulgaria and Greece.

Abdelhamid Brahimi is accompanied by Mohamed Rouighi, member of the Central Committee and minister of hydraulics, environment and forest; Ali Oubouzar, minister of planning and national development; Mohamed Abarkat, vice minister in charge of external trade; and Mohamed Mazouni, vice minister in charge of mechanical, electrical and electronic industries.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Speech to Basic People's Congresses

LD072026 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1932 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Speech by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in nationwide radio and television linkup setting guidelines for third session of Basic People's Congresses scheduled for 5 January — live]

[Excerpts] Good evening. In the name of God. At the sixth anniversary of the revolution we said that the people lead the transitional stage. The stage of revolutionary transformation or transitional stage cannot be exclusively run by any individual or party. It cannot be a justification for governing on behalf of the Libyan people, nor can it be an excuse for the emergence of a dictatorship. It also cannot be a suitable vessel for military and fascist domination of the (?whole) of the country.

The transitional period should be the suitable medium for involving the Libyan people as individuals in the building the popular and democratic state. The popular and democratic society cannot be attained unless the Libyan people exercise popular democratic experiences from now on.

As of the sixth anniversary of the revolution, the historical turning point toward building popular democracy and establishing the people's state, the state of the masses had begun. Consequently, any discussions or efforts on the part of myself or anyone else are designed to implement the revolutionary program, which is in fact the establishment of the popular power, the strengthening of the popular will, and completing the construction of the Jamahiriah system.

Since the sixth anniversary the burden has been placed on the shoulders of the Libyan people, that is, they are the ones leading the stage of transformation. Evidence of this is the emergence of the people's power, the popular congresses, the emergence of the popular committees. Now the socialist companies are beginning to be established.

In front of me is the agenda which has been drawn up by the popular congresses and popular committees. If I or any of my colleagues in the revolution command have an idea, we present it to the people, and we explain our thoughts to the people so that they can adopt or reject them. I had previously put forward ideas that were revolutionary and basic, but the people did not adopt them, such as primary education [words indistinct] which is not raised at present. But I am talking about revolutionary, basic issues I had put forward but which had not been adopted by the people. Today the people are free. They can reject or accept what they like, even the ideas which I personally put forward.

I will not deal with the whole agenda but I would like only to stress some of the points on the agenda, to make them more easily understood by the people who may have trouble understanding them without explanations — points which I think are important and are connected with the revolution that I am leading with revolutionary transformation.

Before I start on the agenda there is an issue written down on the pad in front of me [words indistinct]. It is a side issue of a political nature. The Church of England sent a deputy, what do they call him? Pope? Bishop? Sent the deputy bishop, whom you have heard about, to meet me here. He is a religious man, a good man and a man of ideas. He came to me and brought me an amicable message from the Archbishop of the Church of England. Naturally, it is aside from politics. The British churchman begs the Libyans, asks me, begs me to release the four Britons detained in Libya following the attack against the People's Bureau in London, the foiled attack which was defeated by the presence of a revolutionary street demonstration.

I assured this man that if it were up to me, because of his appeals and the message from the archbishop, and because of the intervention of the Church of England to release them — a humanitarian act — actually, I said to him if it were up to me, I would release them this night. I stressed to him however that the matter is absolutely in the hands of the Libyan people. He should understand that I am not a head of state or a prime minister, similar to Thatcher. Authority rests in the hands of the Libyan people. Therefore, I promised him that I would present the matter to the people's congresses for them to discuss as the first item on the occasion of the beginning of the New Year 1985.

There are Libyans detained in Britain, some of whom have been sentenced and some still under interrogation. In fact, the British Government is not in a position to interfere in a legal or criminal issue. But I assured the envoy of the Church of England that the issue is basically political. The detention of the Libyans in Britain is for political reasons, and constitutes a political detention. I stress here that the British Government is to a great extent in collusion with the government of the United States which is extremely hostile to the Arab nation, to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and to me personally as the leader. Therefore, the matter as a whole is a political issue. We refuse, and will continue to refuse, to look at the detained and sentenced Libyans from a purely judiciary and legal view.

In spite of this, and in spite of the fact that that he does not guarantee the release of the Libyans in Britain, he only offered that the church will do its best to improve the relations between

the two countries and to explain the true image of the Jamahiriyah in Britain, because American propaganda and the propaganda of Arab reactionaries, especially the dirty Egyptian propaganda which is under the control of the Zionists and the CIA, the Zionist, American and reactionary propaganda has distorted the image of Libya to the world. Public opinion believes the newspapers. What is written in the newspapers is believed by ordinary people; they have no consciousness. They know Libya, but they do not even know where it is located. They are not so conscious as the Libyans who know where their country is and what is its policy and what is its regime. they are occupied with their daily work, and lack consiousness. What they read in the newspapers they believe.

These hostile newspapers are in the hands of the Zionist and imperialist circles. They receive their information about the Middle East and Arab regions from the Arab reactionary circles, which are hostile to us. Therefore they distort our image.

He [the Church of England representative] said to me that the church will work towards presenting the truth about the humanitarian, revolutionary, civilized and progressive Libyan position as it is known by the socialists, such as Kreisky and Felipe Gonzalez, the Spanish prime minister; and Papandreou, our friend the Greek prime minister; and by Dr Dom Mintoff in Malta. They know that in Libya there is revolutionary change, civilization and a historic event, which, if adopted internationally, would change the history of the whole world and the destiny of the human race. It is the beginning of the era of the masses, and the foundations of a new change in the world, and a cornerstone of a new stage in the world. Kreisky said it. Even in Italy [words indistinct] those who are conscious in their struggle, because what takes place in Libya [words indistinct] at the same time against Zionism and the silly Arab reactionarism and imperialism.

America [words indistinct] in Western Europe [words indistinct]. She considers Libya as a terrorist country which destroys American interests and throws the Jews in the sea. We see Libya as progressive, revolutionary. Huge material achievements were fulfilled during the era of the revolution for every citizen in Libya. There are interests which were (?gained); there is a country which understands, a country which leads a nation and a civilization and which has a future; a country whose regime is well founded and popular, and will not be troubled, as is the troubled American regime, and the regimes which America now preserves, such as the Sudanese, the Egyptian regime and other Arab and non-Arab regimes.

The only guarantee which the British church offered me, after I talked about the cases of the Libyans detained and persecuted by the British police, the guarantee which I really trust, is that the church promised to establish a telephone number in every city in which there are Libyan students, and a church official will receive all the telephone calls which come from any Libyan student or Libyan citizen who faces persecution, tailing, pressure or attempts at recruitment, now carried out by the CIA in Britain with the collaboration of British intelligence. I am sure that if any Libyans, harmed or under any pressure or persecution or tailing by the British authorities, should take this number down and phone the church official about this harrassment, the church would immediately intervene in this matter. This is considered a most important guarantee, and is the first time the church has made such a guarantee. It is considered very useful, positive and extraordinary that the church should shoulder such a serious responsibility. Therefore, I was assured that the persecution and tailing would be revealed, and would be not covered up as in the past. Now they will be revealed. There is also an authority which will actually intervene in this.

However, I hope that we will no longer go to study either in Britain or America because both are hostile countries and would spoil us and our children. Do not send them to Britain or America from now on. Any country hostile to us has its mission of enlisting us as agents, destroying, brainwashing and tempting us by all means to stay and work for its intelligence service. In fact, there is no longer any benefit in studying in these countries, regrettably, However, those who are now there have been secured. So, I would like the basic congresses to help me in this matter and release, if you deem it proper, the four Britons. We will have then done them a favor and will have considered the feelings of the church this time. After all, we are capable of any deeds that would protect ourselves and regain our esteem. We are capable of doing this, although I have noticed these days that the British papers have waged a very bad propaganda campaign against the Jamahiriyah. In spite of this, we feel obliged to consider the appeal from the church. Had it come from the British Government we would not be so obliging. Also, we must consider the feelings of King Hassan II, as Thatcher has contacted him and begged him to intercede with Al-Qadhdhafi to release detainees. However, had I the power to release detainees, I would have; but I have not the power to release any prisoner sentenced by a court.

However, we consider the matter of the Libyans still being detained in Britain a political matter and we hold the British Government responsible. I think there were others who have interceded in this matter. Our Greek and Italian friends were also contacted by Thatcher to intercede with me. We take consideration of their feelings, and I feel that you can discuss the matter and spell out any conditions. However, we could release them and then we would be free to act after that. This, in fact, is a secondary matter and should not take very long.

As regards economic matters, people should cut consumption and make things last longer so that the state can save money in order to build factories. If you save large enough sums, you would be increasing the foreign exchange reserve. Libya would thus appear strong in the world because it has huge reserves. Afterwards, you would be able to build factories, plantations, schools and thus make great progress. You would become an advanced state and no longer be underdeveloped.

What I am saying does not mean there is no money. There is money. It is in front of me. The money which we will make in 1985 will be nearly 4 billion dinars, four billion. No one must think that there is no money. Money is plentiful. What you will make in 1985 will not be less than 4 billion dinars, i.e. 12 billion dollars, huge amounts, and because they are huge, 20 million bars of soap will hardly make a dent. How much do they cost? 10 million? 3 million? 1 million? No. We want to save so that we can pass through the stage of transformation quickly in a few years, and build factories and till the land and begin to advance.

The matter rests with us, our effort, our will and awareness. We can make a big jump and be ahead of all the Third World countries and become an advanced country in a matter of few years if we save. But if we start to buy 40 types of cooking oil and 40 types of tea and [words indistinct] and every season you want new and fashionable clothes, these things make a hole in your pockets. They make you the laughing stock of Israel and the United States who are sharpening the knife to kill you and who are making atom bombs and weapons and chemical germs and atomic weapons. You should give a thought to these things. We should (?possess them) and if the enemy uses them we should also use them.

I would also raise the question of commercial goods. I am still talking about the goods you are importing this year. First, there are the basic commodities, and we have dealt with them already. Second, the commercial commodities, which include furniture and various household materials, tobacco, building materials, spare car parts, electronics, photographic materials and agricultural requirements. These come to a total of 518 million; 500 million is a large sum. If you cut down on furniture and household materials, you can save and, in my opinion if you consider this large sum, you can save 100, 200 or 300 million. I do not mean that you should totally stop importing such goods; you could import furniture, household materials and tobacco and so forth, but only to the value of 100 or 200 or 300 million and with the 100 or 200 million saved you could build furniture factories, household material factories, enlarge the tobacco factories, run workshops for spare parts, run an electronics factory, so that in the coming years we would not have to import such commodities. Otherwise, it seems that you will always be importing.

Therefore, save on such imports so that you can run factories that will produce such commodities. Progress must be made. Stop stretching out your hand, begging from the West, Europe and America. If you are poor you will have to do without these goods for no gain; but if you do without them now you will have some gain, you will be running factories. You will be saving the reserve. When you have no money you will have to do without them and you will have no factories. Now you can do without them while you grow rich. A rich man has money. Instead of (holding on to it?) he should spend it; he should buy something useful. These are the commercial commodities which include engineering materials such as spare car parts, household materials, electronics, building materials like steel, ferroconcrete, timber, white cement, wall tiles, bath fixtures — these wall tiles and white cements are essential. [words indistinct] [Another voice interrupts to ask question about the wall tiles]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Wall tiles are available in abundance. If you had visited the industrial research center... Libya has raw materials not only sufficient for your needs, but enough for you to export to the whole world. If you could run the factories and utilize the raw materials you have, household materials, wall tiles, building materials — these are raw materials which will save Libya money and run factories for you to export to the world. [words indistinct] no raw materials and must buy these commodities; but it is not essential to buy them. Save money. The raw materials are available in Libya, particularly all these household materials. Agricultural requirements mean pipes, fertilizers, seeds and (?livestock).

We will quickly review other sectors in the internal policy. We have finished this one, the annual budget. Second is the education sector.

Presented to the people's congresses are the contributions of the Libyans qualified to teach and do field work. I think all the countries of the world, not only the revolutionary countries, are similar in that there is not a single teacher who does only one job, just teaching. The U.S. secretary of state is a professor at a university. He gives lessons and lectures, has students, and corrects examinations, while he is conspiring against us. He is the U.S. secretary of state. Senior CIA officials and CIA officers are teachers. The one who specialized in poisons, by which it is alleged that they [words indistinct], this one is an American intelligence officer who teaches pharmacology. An intelligence officer is conspiring against us with poisons, but he is teaching pharmacology in the College of Pharmacology there. Therefore, every qualified Libyan must teach, from the primary school to the university.

In this way you can dispense with the huge army of foreigners who are teaching here now. If you decide this and commit yourselves to it, do not abandon it. If you decide not to do it, and tomorrow we say come and teach, and you say no, find a teacher...are you ridiculing yourselves? How can you decide to do something, then not come and carry out your decision?

The second part concerning internal policy which we will talk about is the sector of housing and facilities. Construction must be carried out by Libyans. Brothers, construction is not electronics or an atom bomb or magic. It is mixing water with dust and mud and putting up walls. If we do not have Libyan engineers to build roads and sewers and buildings, then remove all the certificates given to anyone who says he is a Libyan engineer or surveyor. If you walk in the street you will find that the engineer or the surveyor is a foreigner. These projects, along with water projects, are managed by foreigners.

If you want to live in a house, there is an ample supply of cement. The factories are working [words indistinct] to export to Egypt and the other countries. There is a boycott against Egypt and other countries. I mean there is no marketing, and other countries went to these markets; you have no ability to market your production. The important thing is that the production of the factories now is stockpiled. Building materials, bricks, lime and cement are available; sand, bricks and stone are available and water is available. Mix them together and build your houses, schools, hospitals, roads and buildings. If you do not want to work...No more foreign companies or foreign engineers will come and mix these materials together, pour them and dry them and paint them, and then say to us: Here you are, give us the money, and live happily.

No more foreign companies will come. Do what you like. These materials are stockpiled, come and build. Any citizen is free to decide that we want a school or a road. We will get you the asphalt, bricks, sand, cement, stones, and lime, everything, and we agree, you come and build. The money is available. You are building for yourselves. Take your own money. Libyan money is available, but if you spend it abroad, it becomes hard currency.

The public services sector. The public issues. The public issues which I would like to talk about [words indistinct]. Jamahirization: For the second time I am going to explain it. Jamahirization means that all the Libyans exchange positions. The military men become workers, the workers become military men, the students become employees, the employees become workers, so that if there is hardship in military life, then all of us go through it, and in this way an army is constructed quickly. If there is comfort in the administrative jobs, then we all go through it. Some of us are destined to hardship till doomsday by being workers all our lives or soldiers all our lives or employees all our lives.

Then there is the Jamahiri suburb. A booklet will be issued on the Jamahiri suburb. Any group of people could make their suburb into a Jamahiri suburb. The inhabitants of this suburb train themselves in all the professions they need; they find products and professions for themselves. They become self-sufficient. The Jamahiri suburb is self-sufficient. Its security, health treatment, and education is internal, from its individuals.

The people's committees should discuss all these points starting from the bottom. Let us take an example: the People's Committee for Education. Its secretary is also a member of the General Committee for Education. This committee cannot be excluded from these conferences if this member is removed from the General People's Committee for Education. All people's committees for education cannot fall at the same time the General Committee for Education falls. In this manner, the removal of a secretary who is a member of the General People's Committee, the removal of the General Committee or a specialized people's committee can be decided by the controlling Basic People's Committees. This will not lead to the removal of the whole committee unless there is a total failure in education, health, industry and agriculture. In this case if there is a total failure in one of these sectors in the Jamahiriyah, the whole of the local people's committee will be removed.

There is a new law being presented to the people's congresses dealing with public manners. There are few points I wish to make which I will explain now, and try to do so quickly.

It is noted, in fact, that there has been some deterioration of public ethics both in the street and at places of employment. A law must be enacted to alert people to the need of adhering to good manners, so that this would become part of our traditional behavior, and bad manners would not become our traditional behavior.

This law is simple. Bad behavior involves acts violating honor. They are defined and their penalties set. In addition to the material punishment meted to the wrongdoer under any of the laws in force in the Jamahiriyah, there should be other deterrent penalties, such as deprivation of the right to membership in the Secretariats of Basic Popular Congresses, popular committees and trade unions and vocational organizations.

Anybody convicted of a crime against honor and public ethics becomes [words indistinct] as they say; then it is not right to make him a secretary of a congress, secretary of a people's committee, secretary of a trade union or secretary of a local committee. He is to be considered incompetent. Actually anybody convicted of these crimes, and this is a great deterrent, anybody convicted should be despised, and not promoted. If someone who does not know him says this one is qualified, someone else must stand and say no, he has been convicted of a crime, his history is black, his behavior is bad concerning public ethics, he is convicted of wrong public ethics. This would shame him, and nobody should expose himself to such shame. The psychological punishments are more important than the material punishments.

The prohibition of one convicted to be a guardian or representative: The one convicted of such crimes against public ethics and morals should not be a guardian or a representative. Nobody should make him a representative, and the courts should reject his guardianship and his appointment as a representative. Those convicted by the courts of immoral acts should not be allowed to testify before courts.

The convicted also must be deprived of any good behavior and good manners certificate from any quarter. Those who do not obtain such certificates will find doors closed to them. They cannot have a passport, buy or sell, get employment or promotion. This is because a certificate of good behavior is required in all these matters. Furthermore, the sentence should be published in accordance with the provisions of the penal code. It should be written in the papers that Mr so-and-so has been convicted in such and such a case. Disciplinary and moral penalties are better than material penalties. Even religion favors not material but moral penalties in this world, with the rest of the penalty left to God.

There is also a draft law dealing with the crime of exploitation of posts and vocations. Anyone who exploits his post or vocation or profession to achieve an illegal benefit for himself, members of his family, a relative or other person, is to be punished by imprisonment for a period not less than 2 years. Anyone who exploits his post, job or profession to achieve an illegal benefit is to be punished by doubling the penalty if his action led to violating the honor, dignity, or interests of others.

Anyone who commits any action affecting the work of public elevation to the Secretariat of the people's congresses and committees, and trades unions and associations and similar public organizations in order to achieve an illegal benefit for himself or for others, or anyone who deviates from the practices of the people's authority is to be punished by imprisonment.

Anyone who uses the elevation to the people's congresses and committees and trades unions in order to achieve an illegal benefit for himself or others, or deviates from the people's authority — this means that instead of the direct free elevation from the masses, a group agrees among themselves on someone and starts lobbying to impose him — this is considered a deviation from the practices of the people's authority. He should choose someone who is effective, not because there is a private interest in the choice. If this is the case, then the punishment is severe. The items of this law do not prejudice the disciplinary points specified in the current laws. The conviction also leads to the prohibition of the convicted from being elevated to the Secratariat of the People's Basic Congresses and committees, trade unions and associations.

This draft law is similar to that on immoral behavior. The promulgation of this draft law was prompted by the fact that some reactionary and tribal people diverted the course of the people's authority and prevented elections to popular committee posts directly by the masses by working behind the lobbies. The draft law implies that there are some who still exploit their posts, vocation or profession to attain private ends, as apparently was the case in the matter of the distribution of houses and medical treatment abroad and so on. These illnesses must be eradicated by severe punishment as of now, using material and moral punishments. Once adopted, this draft law will be enforced by the courts against anyone thus convicted.

[Al-Qadhdhafi asks someone to include some of his remarks in the body of the proposed draft law].

Every citizen who hears of or sees acts of nepotism, bribery, trickery, acts of immorality, abuse of profession or vocation, any citizen even if [words indistinct] is permitted by law to report to the public prosecution and the police of this so that they may investigate the matter and impose the punishment. This is important, because some people have been disregarding the law.

Another draft law deals with local popular security. This is important. Security is the responsibility of every citizen in the Jamahiriyah. Every one of you is responsible for protecting public funds and the security of the country. However, to be precise, if the popular congresses pass this law, all citizens to whom the qualifications mentioned in the draft law apply, i.e. if they are of good behavior, are over 18 years of age and have not been convicted of any crimes, have the right to [words indistinct] the police and they themselves can form a police force from now on, once the law is passed. They can form a local popular security force in every municipality, submunicipality, town or village by setting up a post akin to that of the police.

They would be given a symbol and the same authority now given to the police. You might be an employee, student, worker or farmer, it does not matter. You might have no other commitments or you might have others. You might have a salary, or you might have no salary, according to the situation. But the popular security is completely open to all citizens, men or women. All those who want to consolidate and serve the security force can volunteer in their areas. If they move from one area to another, they could be attached to the popular security in their new area.

As for the police, everybody is calling for opening more police stations. In the people's congresses I saw them calling for police stations. This is the only country who calls for police. If the police force is one thousand, it will become thousands. If it is 10,000, it will be tens of thousands through the joining of people from the various professions, through volunteering for the police. Therefore, the police will include volunteers and become the local popular security with branches everywhere, and its members will carry a symbol. This means that if you are a student and you want to be a member of the popular security, if you conform to the conditions, then apply. If we see that you have a good reputation and your age is suitable, etc, then you will be a member of the popular security and you will be given a symbol. Even the police uniforms will be changed, with the exception of the officers. All the rest will carry the same symbol, as members of the local popular security who have the authority of law officers.

If you have a salary or an income which is sufficient for you, then you say that you would like only to volunteer and nothing else, [words indistinct]. Someone else could say give me an additional sum of money because this work detracts from my time at the expense of my profession. You could also ask for complete freedom from other commitments and take a full salary for volunteering.

On loans: Henceforth, anyone who wants a loan for building a house does not need to obtain this from the estate bank only. All commerical banks can give such loans. But this requires enactment of a law. You apply to the commercial banks and get loans with interests.

Another draft law deals with the participation of Libyans in the companies. There is a law submitted to the people's congresses in this regard. If you agree, everyone of us will become a partner in the capital of the companies now existing in the country. This should be made equally. No one should have more shares than another. If every Libyan pays 10 dinars or 50 dinars as a contribution to the capital of any company, he will have a right to a share of the profits. Thus all companies in Libya will be owned by us all as individuals.

That is the agenda. It is placed before you. God willing, you should make a start on it tomorrow. You should give it its due of debate, responsibility. I hope that you will save huge amounts so that we can build factories and projects which will take us out of the state of underdevelopment into the stage of development and save us the trouble of having to seek the aid of foreign countries.

We should become a platform from which we should proceed to unite the Arab nation, liberate Palestine and put a halt to imperialism. You should recall what I said in the speech on the 6th anniversary of the revolution. It is the foundation stone. In fact, it is the turning point. From that time we have begun the turning point leading to the Jamahiriyah state, the state of the masses, popular democracy and how we can transform ourselves as a nation. Let us go forward and the struggle will continue.

AL-MAJALLAH Interviews Secretary Al-Turayki

PM071913 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 5-11 Jan 85 pp 13-16

[Interview with Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the Foreign Liaison Bureau of the Libyan General People's Committee, by Salih Qallab in Sanaa — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Qallab] Libya has recently entered into unity with Morocco. It appeared as if that unity was meant as a bloc against Algeria. What is your opinion?

[Al-Turayki] The Libyan-Moroccan unity is the result of serious attempts to achieve Arab unity and reflects a realization of the importance of Arab unity. Contrary to what the Algerians think and believe, this unity is a step toward the unification of the Arab Maghreb. It is a unity between two fraternal countries. It is not

against anyone and it is not a bloc. When Algeria concluded its agreement with Tunisia we were the first to welcome that agreement.

[Qallab] Libya used to be the Polisario's prime supporter both financially and militarily, but since the unity with Morocco we have noticed that this support has been decreased if not totally suspended. Does that mean that your strategy has changed or are there other reasons?

[Al-Turayki] Anyone who has been following Libya's policy on the Sahara issue will realize that it has not changed at all. Libya was the first to support the Sahara cause when it was under the yoke of Spanish imperialism. It armed the Saharan people despite the objection of some Arab brothers in the region and their refusal to cooperate with us and refusal even to allow the arms to pass through to the Sahara. They did that because of their own circumstances. Our aim was to liberate the Sahara from Spanish imperialism. We had no economic or geographical ambitions.

The Spanish used to tell us: Who would have the Sahara if we pulled out? Our reply was: That is not your business. That territory is a part of the Arab homeland. When Morocco and Mauritania claimed that territory we said: What is important is that it should be liberated. We are not against its joining either Morocco or Mauritania in the future. The mistake Mauritania and Morocco made was that they partitioned the Sahara. Partition is against the principle of unity.

When the OAU decided to hold a referendum on the Sahara, Morocco accepted that decision. We also supported that decision and we reached the conclusion that there was no longer any scope for extending military aid to the Polisario. War is not an end in itself. The aim was to ensure that the referendum be conducted with complete objectivity and impartiality and with sufficient guarantees. Morocco responded to all these things.

[Qallab] You have always raised the slogan: Unity of objective before unity of ranks. However, your unity with Morocco seems to indicate that you have changed that view. Yours is a republican regime while Morocco is a monarchy. You lean toward the socialist states whereas Morocco leans to the West. There seems to be a missing link in this unity.

[Al-Turayki] I do not think so. Both the unity of objective and the unity of ranks are related to agreements and not to unity as such. Are agreements based on unity or ranks or on a specific subject? We do believe in the unity of objective. As far as Libyan-Moroccan unity is concerned, there are contradictions between all the Arab states. There are contradictions between Libya and Algeria, Libya and Tunisia, Libya and Syria, Libya and Iraq, and also Libya and Morocco, but unity is more important than all these contradictions. We know and realize that the Libyan and Moroccan regimes are different and there are contradictions between our foreign policies, but we and our Moroccan brothers also realize that the unity of the two peoples transcends all these contradictions. We believe that political differences should not prevent unity, otherwise unity would never be acheived. We blessed the Syrian-Jordanian and the Syrian-Iraqi unity attempts, and we supported the GCC experiment when its aim was to unite the countries of that region.

[Qallab] From what we hear and read Libya seems to be the staunchest advocate of the Arab blood link, but what is really puzzling is that Libya supports Iran against Iraq.

[Al-Turayki] First of all, the claim that Libya backs Iran against Iraq is untrue, and history will prove that what you say is untrue. Our policy on that war has been proven to be the right policy. In the very beginning, in fact a few weeks before the war broke out, the brother leader (Al-Qadhdhafi) visited Iraq and warned against war between Iraq and Iran. We did everything in our power and expressed our readiness to make efforts to prevent the deterioration of Iraqi-Iranian relations and the outbreak of war. We spoke out against the war and maintained that the Arab nation should not engage in a campaign against the Islamic revolution in Iran. We rejected the idea of an Arab-Persian war because such a war would arouse hostility between two fraternal nations joined by a common faith. We have tried and in some cases succeeded in preventing the war from extending to other Arab countries. I believe that it is now clear, even to our brothers in the Gulf, that we can be an element of rapprochement and that we can bridge the views of the warring parties.

[Qallab] Bearing all that in mind, how, in your view, can the war be stopped? Iraq has already responded to the efforts made in this connection. Is Libya thinking of playing a part in the efforts to end the war?

[Al-Turayki] The question of ending the war is not easy, particularly since the war has assumed devastating proportions. All previous attempts have failed, but that does not mean that efforts should be discontinued. A few days ago I was on a visit to Gambia. The Gambian president broached the question of mediation and expressed a wish to visit Libya and Syria. We agreed, and the visit will take place shortly. I want to state here that any new attempt must be carefully studied in advance in order to prevent another failure.

[Qallab] Do you not think that this calls for an improvement in Libyan-Iraqi relations?

[Al-Turayki] As far as we are concerned, we have no objection to establishing normal relations with Iraq. We were not the ones who initiated the hostility in our relations with the Iraqi brothers. I believe that an improvement in Libyan-Iraqi relations is now possible.

[Qallab] You have maintained that unity of objective is above minor differences and social systems, but your relations with the PLO are not moving in the right direction. What do you want from the Palestinians?

[Al-Turayki] What you say is true. There is disagreement between us and certain Palestinian leaders. To be specific, our disagreement is in fact with the Fatah leadership, and it is due to that leadership's lack of clear political and struggle vision. We want the PLO to be a fighting organization, an organization of struggle, not of political maneuvers and settlements. It is now clear that the PLO or rather its leadership, is leaning toward

political games. There are suspect contacts of which we do not approve. The conflict between the Arab nation and Israel is not a conflict between left and right. It is above all a struggle for survival. It is a cultural conflict. It is a struggle for the liberation of Palestine and the Arab territories.

As regards the call for a dialogue with the Zionist left, we believe that all [Israeli] sides are Zionists. This is a serious matter. If the Palestinians are entitled to contact the Israeli left, then by the same token the Arab right is entitled to contact the Israeli right. Then there is the question of the so-called Palestinian freedom of decision. We ask: freedom of decision in what context? If it is in the organizational context, then we are all for noninterference in Palestinian internal affairs and the election of the PLO Executive Committee chairman, but the political decision does not belong to the PLO or any one Arab country. Such a decision concerns the entire Arab nation.

We believe that no Arab state has a right to take independent decisions on pan-Arab issues. Has their unclear policy not led to a split within the PLO? Many Palestinian factions are opposed to Yasir 'Arafat's policy toward Egypt. What is the problem between Libya and Egypt? Do we condemn Iraq and Egypt as such? There are no border or other problems between us and Egypt. The problem was Al-Sadat's policy on the Palestinian question.

[Qallab] I have read in a magazine that during the "steadfastness summit" held in Tripoli in 1979 you concluded an agreement with certain Arab and Palestinian sides and that the aim of the agreement was to topple Yasir 'Arafat. Did you consider the PLO chairman as a "political deviant" although he had not yet visited Cairo or held contacts with what you call the Zionist left?

[Al-Turayki] No such agreement has been concluded between us and any Arab or Palestinian side.

[Qallab] [PFLP-GC leader] Ahmad Jibril said so in a statement to a Lebanese magazine.

[Al-Turayki] That is not true. On the contrary and despite the fact that we sensed the danger of 'Arafat's policy, we tried to unite the Palestinian factions. A document to this effect was drafted and signed by all sides including 'Arafat.

[Qallab] What do you think of the PNC session held in Amman?
[Al-Turayki] We do not recognize that council.

[Qallab] But the majority of the Palestinian people's representatives attended it.

[Al-Turayki] That never happened. There was a clear falsification. We followed the council's proceedings clearly. We know the number of absentees. There was a flagrant forgery of the lists of trade unions, leagues, writers, and workers.

[Qallab] The workers conference was attended by all the organizations.
[Al-Turayki] No, that is not true at all.

[Qallab] The PFLP, the DFLP, and the Communist Party are all members of the workers federation's command.
[Al-Turayki] There was also disagreement regarding the new appointments — that is those appointed to replace former representatives. There was a change in the military representation. In fact there were changes in more than one sector.

[Qallab] On the question of the military representatives, the Palestinian organizations, including those opposed to 'Arafat, had authorized 'Arafat in his capacity as commander in chief to appoint the military representatives in the PNC. In the past 'Arafat used this prerogative.

[Al-Turayki] I tell you frankly that that was not a Palestinian council. It was a council against Syria, Libya, and the Arab progressive forces.

[Qallab] But there is a resolution regarding Syria....
[Al-Turayki] (Interrupting) It was not a Palestinian council. Its aim was to attack Syria.

[Qallab] The council did not attack Syria. I was there.
[Al-Turayki] The attacks occurred during the discussions. There was a certain trend which, regrettably, was exploited by fraternal Jordan in connection with its relations with Syria. It was a conference of Arab reactionary forces. It was not a Palestinian conference. What has it achieved or done? Has it minimized Palestinian divisions?

[Qallab] It left the door open for dialogue.
[Al-Turayki] No, it only increased the divisions.
[Qallab] But there is a dialogue in progress now.
[Al-Turayki] A dialogue now is impossible.
[Qallab] There is a dialogue with the DFLP and the PFLP.
[Al-Turayki] There is no dialogue with the DFLP or the PFLP.
[Qallab] I have received information that meetings are in progress in Algiers now.
[Al-Turayki] There will be no meetings. You just wait and see.

[Qallab] You have said that the [PNC] session was a conference of reactionary forces, but it was actually attended by Algeria, the Egyptian opposition, the Moroccan opposition, and many other Arab and world liberation movements.

[Al-Turayki] Syria boycotted it completely. Yemen, Libya, and all the socialist states also boycotted it. It was not attended by a single representative from the socialist states. It is clear that Aou 'Ammar ['Arafat] is following a new line, which is the U.S. line in the region.

[Qallab] Are there any attempts to restore PLO-Libyan relations?
[Al-Turayki] I just want to tell you one thing. Libya will never abandon the Palestinian cause. It will remain the real supporter of the revolution. No cause in the world gets higher priority from us than the Palestinian cause.

Our differences are with the Fatah leadership, not with the PLO. We will never ever abandon the Palestinian cause, and we will work for the unification of all the resistance factions on the basis of a clear political line.

[Qallab] After the attempt on the life of [Libyan opposition leader] Al-Bakkush, it was reported that a state of military alert was declared on your border with Egypt.

[Al-Turayki] There is no state of alert on our side and we do not want any confrontation with Egypt.

[Qallab] The Egyptians say that you have tried to contact them about 12 times. What were these contacts about?

[Al-Turayki] What has been said about that is not true. The contacts held were within the context of the efforts to solve security problems between two neighboring states.

Other than that, I assure you that there have been no political contacts between the Jamahiriyah and Egypt since Al-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. We want Egypt out of Camp David and we are willing to do anything to facilitate its return to the Arab fold after it rids itself of Camp David.

[Qallab] We notice some oscillation in your relations with Tunisia. At times these relations reach the point of unity, as in the case of the Jarbah agreements; at other times they reach the point of confrontation, as in the case of Qafsah. Why is that?

[Al-Turayki] Our relations with Tunisia are good. There are 150,000 Tunisians working in Libya and thousands of Libyans go to Tunisia as tourists.

There are bound to be problems. Last week the Libyan justice secretary visited Tunisia for a meeting with Tunisian officials to lay the foundation on which these problems could be solved.

SUDAN

Numayri Pardons Ghabbush, 208 Defendants

JN071514 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 7 Jan (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today pardoned Father Philip 'Abbas Ghabbush and 208 other defendants following a request for clemency by defendent Ghabbush. Dr Al-Mukashifi Taha al-Kabbashi, president of the special court that was formed by a republican decree to try Ghabbush and the other defendants, read President Numayri's pardoning memorandum and the clemency petition presented by Ghabbush at the first court session. This session was held at the infantry training institute in Karari at 1100 today in the presence of all defendants.

Father Philip 'Abbas Ghabbush submitted a clemency petition on 30 December 1984, saying that the group he was leading did not seek to strike at the state and the government, but rather at the oppostion [words indistinct] affiliated to its institutions. Ghabbush asked the president of the republic to pardon him, indicating that the president had pardoned those who carried arms. He asked for clemency in the name of God and his prophet.

Minister Briefs Asian Envoys on Transfer of Jews

JN071121 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1009 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Jan (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman received the heads of Asian diplomatic missions in Khartoum yesterday. He informed them about Sudan's stand toward Ethiopian allegations on Sudan's participation in the transfer of the Falasha Jews to Israel, and Sudan's stand toward the unfair campaign Ethiopia is leading against Sudan in this regard.

ETHIOPIA

TPLF Claims 250 Government Soldiers Killed, Wounded

EA081038 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] Units of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] have attacked and destroyed an enemy camp at (Golosa), southern Tigre. In a 7-hour battle, units of the TPLF attacked a force of enemy reinforcements consisting of two battalions from Alamata and Kobo and forced it to retreat. The next day, 2 January, the TPLF scored a victory in a 5-hour battle against a reinforcement force of three battalions from Alamata and Woldia and forced it to retreat. During the fighting, 250 enemy soldiers were killed or wounded and [words indistinct]. The TPLF also captured 65 arms of various makes, two radio communication sets, and [words indistinct].

KENYA

Ministers, Permanent Secretaries Shuffle Posts

EA071843 Nairobi KNA in English 1605 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Nairobi Jan 7 (KNA) — The office of the president today announced some changes involving four ministers and three permanent secretaries.

The minister for works, housing and physical planning, Mr Arthur Magugu, now becomes the minister for transport and communications.

The minister for commerce and industry, Mr Andrew Omanga, moves to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife.

Mr Maina Wanjigi moves from the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife to become the minister for works, housing and physical planning.

The minister for transport and communications, Mr Peter Habenga Okondo, moves to become the minister for commerce and industry.

The permanent secretary for health, Mr Joseph Kipsanai, moves to the Ministry of Culture and Social Services. Mr Japheth Kiti, current permanent secretary for culture and social services, becomes permanent secretary for water development.

J.B. Omondi moves from the Ministry of Water Development to become the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Health.

The changes take immediate effect.

SOMALIA

Finance Minister Outlines New Economic Policy

EA071645 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Somali Finance Minister Brigadier General Muhammed Shaykh Uthman has given further details of the program to reorganize the country's economy and finances which came into effect on 1 January 1985.

Addressing a press conference in his office today, the minister said the program is based on a production policy outlined by the IMF, the most significant item in the program being the dollar exchange rate, which has now been fixed at 36.6 Somali shillings to the dollar, compared with the previous rate of 26 Somali shillings to the dollar. This rate will now be applied to government external transactions and to exports through the central bank. It will also make the exchange of hard currency [words indistinct].

Challe Brig Gen Muhammed Shaykh Uthman added that in order to encourage exports, the exporter will be entitled to retain 65 percent of the foreign currency earned from exports instead of the previous 35 percent. Such money could be used in the export funds drive or for purchasing goods from another party with the bank's (?approval).

Turning to the suspension of the *franco valuto* method of trade, the minister said this has been done because the system has been adversely affecting the country's economy. However, goods imported before to the promulgation of the suspension decision will be taxed. [sentence as heard] The minister said any holder of an export-import trade license is entitled to open a letter of credit enabling him to import goods. On traders who, following the suspension of the *franco valuto* method of trade, tries to hoard goods, the minister said they are people who want to starve the people, but the Somali Government has already taken steps to thwart such attempts. Large quantities of various types of food are expected to arrive in the country soon.

Challe Brig Gen Muhammed Shaykh Uthman said the government's decisions will encourage government trade organizations and private businessmen to make greater efforts to bring about increased production. This in turn will be in line with the government's aim of developing the country's economy and trade.

Chairman of the Central Bank of Somalia Challe Omar Ahmed Omar, who also spoke during the press conference, elaborated on the difference between the *franco valuto* method of trade and opening a letter of credit, saying that the *franco valuto* method has adversely affected the country's economy, whereas the letter of credit method will enhance the economy of the country and people.

Challe Omar said Somali workers abroad are free to open external accounts or to remit hard currency to the country. They should, however, declare it and deposit it with the Central Bank's external account within 5 days. The chairman added that the bank has taken pains to ease these formalities for traders and the public.

CHAD

French Parliamentarians Begin Visit 7 Jan

AB080828 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] As we have been announcing for a few days now, the group of French parliamentarians expected to visit our country arrived today in the capital. The leader of the delegation, Alain Vivien, told the press that the group from the French National Assembly is concerned with Franco-Chadian relations and added that the French parliamentarians wish to contribute to a better understanding in France of the problems relating to the situation prevailing in Chad. In fact, a century-long friendship exists between France and Chad. However, it needs to be strengthened now, he said. Concerning the assistance of the French parliamentarians to the people affected by the drought in our country, the French parliamentarian said that French food aid has already left Paris for Chad. Let us listen to the French parliamentarian talking to (Lazeite) and Moustapha (Alifei), respectively reporting for Radio Chad and for the CHADIAN NEWS AGENCY:

[Begin Vivien recording] We had to return the courtesy visit by our friends, the Chadian parliamentarians, who visited us in France last year. You know that our friendship group at the National Assembly follows with keen interest the bilateral relations between France and Chad. It also wishes to contribute as much as possible to a better understanding in France of the problems of Chad and, why not, partly contribute to the resolution of the problem. [end recording]

GUNT Minister Accuses Habre of Diverting Food Aid

AB072155 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The diversion of food aid donated by humanitarian organizations for the Chadian people who are victims of political and natural calamities has aroused a general discontent among Chadians.

In a published statement, the [Transitional National Union Government, GUNT] minister of information and civil guidance, Comrade Abderrahman Hamdane, accused the head of the Ndjamena clique of starving the civilian population in order to force them into exile. This fascist practice, according to the information minister's statement, is planned at high-level FAN circles and should not leave any patriotic Chadian indifferent. In this regard, the minister of information and civil guidance has called on everybody to mobilize to counteract this (?barbaric) practice in our part of the country.

The minister's statement continues in these terms: Hissein Habre is displacing the Chadian people both inside and outside in a Zionist-inspired program to liquidate and (?terrorize) Chadians and establish a dictatorship. Comrade Abderrahman Hamdane continues his statement in these words, quote, I appeal to the national opinion that [words indistinct] and the fight against Hissein Habre should be intensified and should be limited to only Chadians, since the (?national sovereignty) is at stake, unquote.

Bardai Claims ANL Victories, FAN Massacre of Newborn

AB072130 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] In the southern part of the country where the civil war is raging, the courageous revolutionary commandos of the National Liberation Army [ANL] continue to deal deadly blows to the reactionary forces. In the Sarh region, where the commando operations are intensifying, a counterattack launched by the puppet horde against positions of the patriotic forces on 13 December 1984 near (Kpalinbe) ended in a resounding failure, thanks to the vigilance of the Scorpion Group of the ANL. Here are the results of that operation: on the ANL side, no casualties; on the enemy side, (?10) vehicles destroyed with (?materials).

Still around the capital of the Moyen Chari, the reactionaries fell into an ambush laid by the patriotic forces on 31 December. The outcome of this ambush is as follows: ANL side, no casualties; enemy side, three vehicles destroyed along with their military passengers. Furthermore, the FAN central command post at (Kpalinbe) was dismantled.

In the face of the worsening situation and noting the vulnerability of its position, the puppet and vindictive Ndjamena group is currently evacuating its troop trucks and war materials by air from Sarh. Thus, as can be seen, the puppet FAN army, which hoped to quickly overcome the revolutionary commandos, has now realized that it only exposed itself for defeat.

Still, according to our military correspondent, the unarmed civilian population continues to be victimized by the FAN policy [words indistinct] as evidenced by the massacre of newborn babies at the maternity ward of the Catholic Hospital of Bedegiya. In fact, this is not the first time the confused FAN forces have attacked a hospital. It will be recalled that last year in Sarh the national annihilation forces entered the general hospital where they killed all the wounded and fired on nurses who opposed their barbaric actions.

The destructive policy of the evil forces was also extended to the center-east and south-east of the country, where the puppet elements are now systematically burning down all towns in the hope of ending the popular support being given to the liberation forces in that region. In spite of all this savage repression, the liberation forces continue to gain ground both in the central east and the southern part of the country.

GABON

'Arafat Invited To Visit; PLO To Open Office

AB071526 Dakar PANA in French 1140 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Libreville, 7 Jan (AGP/PANA) — The PLO chairman, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, was invited by Gabonese head of state Omar Bongo to visit Gabon, it was learned in Libreville this morning.

President Bongo received a personal message from Mr 'Arafat last Monday delivered by his adviser, Mr Salma al-Hayfa.

According to the Palestinian envoy, this message was related to recent developments in the Middle East and to bilateral issues. At the end of his talks with the Gabonese head of state, Mr al-Hayfa told the press that "the future of the PLO is bright and that its struggle to regain national and legitimate rights is going on in accordance with the United Nations Charter." The Palestinian envoy also announced the forthcoming opening of a PLO office in Libreville.

Bongo Addresses Afro-American Conference

AB080937 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0630 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The 13th Afro-American Conference began yesterday in Libreville, Gabon. After a first plenary session in camera yesterday on the topics hunger in Africa, political and economic solutions, and security, the participants will today address themselves to the dilemma of economic development in Africa, its prospects and limits.

Let us look back on the opening session of the conference, which was highlighted by a speech by the Gabonese head of state, who spoke of political problems such as Namibian independence. In this connection, President Omar Bongo strongly believes that the United States will implement UN Resolution No 435. The Gabonese head of state also spoke of the problems of economic development facing Africa and the efforts being made in this connection by African countries.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Appeals for More Aid to Third World

AB071655 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1025 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 7 Jan (AZAP) — President Mobutu Sese Seko on Sunday called on the rich countries to show more solidarity with the peoples of the Third World who are confronted with a never-ending economic crisis. He also stated that the countries should demonstrate tolerance and moderation in their relations in order to eliminate the areas of tension and war in the world.

President Mobutu, who was responding to the new year wishes from ambassadors accredited to Zaire, painted a particularly dark picture of the international economic and political situation, which, he said, is marked by the proliferation of war zones on all the continents and by persistent economic stagnation, for which the Third World in general and Africa in particular is bearing the costs.

In this regard, he said that this is the responsibility of the international community, whose duty it is to come to the assistance of the less privileged of its members in the face of the challenges confronting the poor countries (drought, desert encroachment, famine, malnutrition, illiteracy). Marshal Mobutu stated that the only way to recover is through strengthening international solidarity and cooperation in the search for collective self-sufficiency.

"It is unthinkable to dream of a way to peace and happiness while humanity is suffering from famine and is struggling in total destitution," he stated, holding that there will never be justice as long as the rich peoples do not eliminate "the current imbalance caused by their exploitation of Third World countries, both in the past and now."

According to the Zairian head of state, the continued deterioration of the situation must incite African countries to pool their human and natural resources in order to step up their chances of efficiently fighting the crisis.

Concerning Zaire, he reaffirmed his desire to remain faithful to his principles and vocation and to do all in his power to contribute to the restoration of a more just and equitable world order.

President Mobutu Responds to New Year Wishes

AB071750 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1110 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Reply by President Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko to the new year message presented to him and his wife, Mama Bobi Ladawa, by the first deputy chairman of the MPR Central Committee on behalf of the constituted bodies in Kinshasa on 5 January 1985]

[Text] Dear citizen MPR cadres, citizens, and militants: We are very much moved — my wife and myself — by the warmth of the new year wishes that the first deputy chairman of the MPR Central Committee has just presented to us on your behalf. In turn, I would [words indistinct] of joy, peace, and happiness for all the MPR militants, all foreigners — men, women, and children living and working in Zaire. [Words indistinct] relatives, friends, and acquaintances, who for various reasons are not happy at this end of the year period. To everyone I say: Happy New Year 1985.

Dear citizens and militants, [words indistinct] the first year of my third 7-year term of office. The first steps of a child are always (?watched) by its parents with special attention. This will be the case in 1985.

Exactly 1 month ago — on 5 December 1984 — I gave a detailed account of the orientations of the plan of action that I would like us to adopt for the future well-being of our country and people. We are now left with the task of mobilizating the right people for this and implementing the programs of execution so that the objectives which I defined in my inaugural address will not be mere words, but will rather be seen by all officials and militants as the guidelines for their own orientations and actions. I can assert that the development of our country has taken off again on a new note, thanks to these perspectives, namely, the rehabilitation of our basic infrastructures; the integration of our economy and industries; the implementation of a new policy of employment, skilled labor, education, and social security; and, finally, thanks to the revision of our methods of administering the assets and financial resources of the state.

Without pretence, I can say that we have finally established what the real problems are for the economic and social development of our great Zaire. And even for the generations to come, the path

that we have just paved will undoubtedly remain the best for the future harmonious well-being of a country like ours. This is what the everlasting nature of Mobutuism represents. But it is necessary that you all know that the struggle will be intense, because this new development policy is for many reasons a revolution; and like all revolutions, we must expect reaction. Some interest groups will find themselves threatened and shaken. Counteroffensives, some more skillful than others, will be organized from all sides from time to time. I am saying this from experience and because I know. Do you remember the years 1966 and 1967?

First of all, it is up to us as sons of this country to defend our own interests, because no one will do it for us, even if we legitimately count on the understanding and the willingness of the outside world.

Internally, the efforts made until now must be maintained and intensified with rigor. The coherence of actions must be strengthened. The state of mind of both the cadres and militants must be infused more vigorously with nationalism because of the importance of what is at stake. I am not preaching a narrow-minded and hateful nationalism. That will be a weakness on our part and a retrogression for our society. I am appealing to the most noble sense of civic responsibility and the militant spirit of every Zairian who, whatever his level of responsibility, must have as his only guideline the interest of the nation before anything else.

For the first quarter of the year which has just begun, we will work toward finalizing the program of implementing all the great orientations which I listed in my 5 December 1984 program. The second quarter will be the period in which the Zairian revolutionary train attains its full speed.

At this new and marvelous period necessary for the future of our country, every one of us has a role to play and is expected to play it fully. The organs of the MPR have singularly received special missions from the people. Every organ must also play its role fully and above all must stick to its own functions. Interference in the functions of others does no good, but very often leads to disorder and irresponsibility. When everybody wants to do everything, nobody ends up doing anything.

Our country can also be proud to count among its sons and daughters people of value and great intellectuals. You can find them all along the political and economic spectrum and at all levels: conception, decision, control, administration, and management.

If I had a wish, it would be to see all these intellectuals contribute more in the future than they have in the past to the resolution of the real problems facing our country and people instead of spending their time speculating on [government] reshuffles and quarreling among themselves in struggles for influence and precedence. "Ah, do you know the general reshuffle is in a week's time?" A week passes and nothing happens. "Ah, it is in 2 months. I was with the president yesterday, I had lunch with him"...but nothing like that happened. I think I have already said that, but I am repeating it today: For a cadre, especially an intellectual, intrigue and lies are not signs of great intelligence. They are the weapons of the weak.

In order to further explain myself, I would like to say that for some time now, all the schemes that I have noticed and that have led to shady schemes are aimed at the posts of first state commissioner, state commissioner, and secretary of state, as if in Zaire the only way to serve the people and the fatherland is to be a first state commissioner or a secretary of state. What is really behind all this? I would like to know.

Until now, thank God, no one has thought of my post. Undoubtedly I have been performing well. The Zairian society must cultivate within itself healthy political habits which make great peoples and great nations.

In my opinion, the best way to prove one's capability is to begin by doing one's duty well rather than continually concerning one's self with the work of one's neighbor, thinking that one would be able to do it much better. This is a wish that I would like to see become a reality in Zaire, an individual and collective guideline.

Our country, Zaire, needs all the hands and minds of its people in order to achieve its great ambition: that of becoming, in the heart of the African Continent, a country that all will respect for its stability, its prosperity, and for its seriousness.

Therefore, in conclusion, dear citizens and militants, on the threshold of the new year I would like you to remember all the many rich and thought-provoking watchwords of our revolution and our motto: To serve [the nation] and not to serve oneself.

It is a matter of serving the nation; serving a people; serving a leader; serving an ideal; in short, to be at all times ready to give the best of one's self for the survival of the national community.

Long live the MPR! Long live Zaire! Happy New Year 1985. Thank you.

Appointment of Regional Governors, Deputy Governors

AB080954 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0911 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 7 Jan (AZAP) — The regional MPR chairmen and regional governors and deputy governors, who were recently appointed by Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, MPR founding chairman and president of the Republic, before whom they swore their constitutional oath on Monday morning at the People's Palace, have been given the following assignments:

Regional governors

Kinshasa: Citizen Tshimbombo Mukuna
Bandundu Region: Citizen Sambia Gere Ndanu
Lower Zaire Region: Citizen Makolo Jibikilayi
Equator Region: Citizen Mpambia Musanga Bekaja
Upper Zaire Region: Citizen Salumu Amisi
Western Kasai Region: Citizen Bangala Basila
Eastern Kasai Region: Citizen Konde Vila Ki Kanda
Kivu Region: Citizen Mwando Nsimba
Shaba Region: Citizen Duga Kugbe Toro

Deputy governors

Kinshasa: Citizen Nzita Pwati et Nkoy Mafuta

Bandundu: Citizen Dibenga Tshibundi

Lower Zaire: Citizen Djoho Ta Yeta

Equator: Citizen Mokolo Matamba, resident in Gbadolite

Upper Zaire: Citizen Mujinga Swana Samukasa

Western Kasai: Citizen Menelwatw Itungapala

Eastern Kasai: Citizen Koyagialo Ngbase

Kivu: Citizen Endjonga Bokwa

Shaba: Citizen Sabi Ngampoub Mubiem

Three of the deputy regional governors have been appointed to the office of the State Commissioner for Territorial Administration and are to be in charge of missions. They are Citizens Kawele Ka Bantu, Kpama Baromotin Kata, and Tshiala Mwana.

Briefs

New Envoy From Cameroon — Kinshasa, 7 Jan (AZAP) — His Excellency Martin Mbarga Nguela, new Cameroonian ambassador to Zaire, last Saturday presented his credentials to Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko at the presidential residence at Mont-Ngaliema. The Cameroonian envoy pledged to work for strengthening relations between Cameroon and Zaire. [Summary] [*Kinshasa AZAP in French 1125 GMT 7 Jan 85 AB*]

New ECOWAS Executive Secretary To Assume Duties

AB081000 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The new executive secretary of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, Alhaji Momodu Munu, left Freetown over the weekend for Lagos to assume duties at the organization's headquarters. Alhaji Munu, who is the first Sierra Leonian to head the 16-nation regional economic body, took leave of the staff of the establishment secretary's office last Thursday.

Alhaji Munu was born on 13 December 1939 in Mateboi, in the Bombali District, Northern Province, and educated at the Mateboi Administrative School and the Methodist Boys' High School, where he obtained the school certificate in 1957. In 1963, the new executive secretary graduated Bachelor of Arts in economics from Fourah Bay College.

Alhaji Munu joined the Sierra Leonian civil service in October 1964 as an administrative officer, in which he served in various ministries, including development and economic planning, information and broadcasting, and internal affairs. He was appointed establishment officer in 1967, and between 1968 and 1972 he served as recruitment and training officer at the Sierra Leone High Commission in London. During his attachment in London, he studied law at Middle Temple and was called to the bar in June 1973. In January 1974, Alhaji Munu was appointed clerk of parliament and in 1977 was promoted establishment secretary.

BURKINA

Libya's Al-Turayki Meets Sankara, Comments

AB080809 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and president of the Faso yesterday afternoon received Mr al-Turayki, Libyan secretary for foreign liaison. He was led into President Sankara's office by his Burkinabe counterpart, Comrade Basile Gissou. Mr al-Turayki, who will take part in an informal four-nation meeting between Burkina, Benin, Ghana, and Libya, is also bearer of a message from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi for his Burkinabe counterpart. After the audience, he explained the purpose of his visit to Comrade Sankara:

[Begin Al-Turayki recording] I have just had the honor of meeting with Comrade Sankara to deliver to him a message from his brother and comrade-in-arms, brother Al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution. I also discussed with him African and world issues, as well as bilateral relations. I must say that we are pleased with our bilateral relations.

As you are aware, I have also come to attend a four-party meeting between Libya, Ghana, Benin, and Burkina. I think that these revolutionary countries must hold consultations in order to harmonize their efforts. We are proud to be here in Burkina Faso, a revolutionary country at the vanguard of African revolution. Many months ago, this was a reactionary country and such a meeting could never be held here. Today, the Ghanaian, Beninese, and Libyan revolutions are at the side of the Burkinabe revolution. I believe that the positive response of all these countries show how much we appreciate and admire the Burkinabe revolution.

We hope that we will do everything possible to make this meeting a total success. It is considered a new stage in our revolutionary struggle in Africa. [end recording]

It should by noted that yesterday morning, the president of the Faso received the Ghanaian and the Beninese foreign ministers, who had already arrived in Ouagadougou for the informal meeting.

GUINEA

President Conte Receives Togolese Foreign Minister

AB081045 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Koffi Amega, the Togolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation and member of the Central Committee of the Rally of the Togolese People, yesterday arrived in Conakry on board a special plane. He was accompanied by Anani Dagba, director of information at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Miss Beda Pkedo, director of technical cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Togolese delegation was welcomed at the Conakry-Gbessia International Airport by Captain Mamadi Kaba, member of the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] and minister of youth; Jean-Claude Diallo, secretary of state in charge of Guinean nationals living abroad; Daniel (Dofis), permanent secretary at the Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; Tiguidanke Diakhaby, Guinean ambassador to Sierra Leone; and Ali Bangoura, chief of protocol at the Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Mr Amega is bearer of a message from President Gnassingbe Eyadema to President Lansana Conte. The distinguished guests were received by the head of state at 1245 in the VIP lounge of the Presidential Palace. In his message, the Togolese head of state said that in addition to the bonds of brotherhood between Guinea and Togo, he would like to reaffirm his complete support for the CMRN. He characterized the CMRN's economic initiatives as realistic and believed that our two countries should strengthen their active solidarity in the interest of Africa, and he also spoke of the common struggle of our two peoples to assert their national and African identities.

LIBERIA

UP Leader Calls for Reconciliation, Unity

AB071635 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Dr Edward B. Kessely, leader of the Unity Party [UP], has called on all Liberians to bury the past in the supreme interest of building a (?healthy) society for the second republic. Dr Kessely said the Unity Party advocates total and genuine reconciliation among all elements of the Liberian people and appealed to supporters of his party to use every opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to reconciliation and unity. The Unity Party leader made the statement over the weekend in Paynesville at an (?extended) meeting he had with members of the organizing committee of his party.

Dr Kessely said the essential prerequisite of free and fair elections in Liberia that will give birth to the second republic was to ensure that all traces of reprisals and revenge were eradicated from the minds of the people.

2 New Members of Elections Commission Appointed

AB071233 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 0655 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Two new appointments have been made at the Special Elections Commission, Secom, by the head of state, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe. Mr Isaac Randal was appointed member of the commission to succeed Major General (Brian Kessely) who retired recently from the commission, while Mr (Thomas Tubabo) was also appointed member, replacing Counselor Isaac Nieplu, who was removed from the commission for administrative reasons.

According to an executive mansion release issued in Monrovia yesterday, the two appointments take immediate effect. The release further said Mr Isaac Randal is from Lofa County while Mr (Thomas Tubabo) is from Grand Kru County. Meanwhile, the head of state has called on the new appointees to demonstrate a high sense of commitment on the commission, thus fulfilling the goal set for the return of the country to democratic civilian rule.

Briefs

PRC Ambassador Departs — The outgoing Chinese ambassador to Liberia, Liu Pu, who leaves Liberia shortly after being in the country for over 3 years, today called on Information Minister Carson Karpeh. The Chinese envoy told the information minister that one of the principal policies of the Chinese Government was to promote genuine cooperation with all Third World countries without interference in their internal affairs. [Summary] [*Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 7 Jan 85 AB*]

NIGERIA

Senegalese Head of State Makes Official Visit

Met by Buhari

AB071253 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The Senegalese president, Mr Abdou Diouf, has arrived in Lagos on a 3-day state visit. He was met on arrival by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, service chiefs, members of the diplomatic corps, and ministers. President Diouf, who was treated to a 21-gun salute, later inspected the guard of honor mounted by a detachment of the Brigade of Guards. He was also presented a bouquet of flowers.

Talks Begin

AB072005 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has called for cooperation between Nigeria and Senegal to strengthen the ECOWAS. Opening the bilateral talks between the two countries in Lagos, General Buhari said this would help to harmonize the strategies of smaller subregional groups in West Africa to ensure self-sustained economic development of the subregion. It will also promote larger market and greater capacity for obtaining foreign financial assistance. General Buhari asked the delegates to intensify efforts to strengthen areas of bilateral cooperation between the two countries. He also urged them to explore ways of combating desert encroachment in Senegal and in Nigeria. The head of state observed that President Abdou Diouf's visit offered opportunity to discuss new strategies and consultation on how to solve pressing African problems.

Replying, President Diouf described the visit as a sign of friendship with Nigeria, which he said Senegal would like to maintain. He said his invitation to visit Nigeria shows the Federal Government's commitment to African solidarity.

Over 27,000 Illegal Immigrants Expelled in 1984

AB080944 Paris AFP in English 0735 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 8 (AFP) — A total of 27,045 illegal immigrants were expelled from Nigeria between January and October last year, Nigerian Minister of Internal Affairs General Mohammed Magoro said here Monday.

He told a press conference that the country's borders, closed last April for a national currency changeover aimed at halting smuggling, would stay shut until the country's economic and security problems had been solved. Gen Magoro said 1,000 extra immigration officers were being recruited and that all immigration personnel would be trained to use firearms. In addition, all Nigerians over the age of 10 would have to carry identity cards from next July 1, he said. This would facilitate census-taking, which has so far been difficult. Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, is estimated to have some 90 to 100 million inhabitants.

Gen Magoro told reporters that the national prison population was about 49,000. According to the NIGERIAN NEWS AGENCY, about 30,000 people are in prison awaiting trial. The minister said 41 new prisons were being built across the country, and 10 of them would be finished by the end of this year.

Head of state Muhammadu Buhari pardoned 2,407 prisoners on new year's day. Gen Magoro said this had been for humanitarian reasons, but had also relieved prison overcrowding.

NSO Officers, Others Given 21-Year Jail Terms

AB071940 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Six persons, including three officials of the Nigerian Security Organization [NSO] and a police officer, have been sentenced to 21 years' imprisonment each by the Ibadan Zone of the military tribunal on the recovery of public property. They include Samuel Olu Soyemi, Fafasi Nyewa, and Richard Nwanku, all of the NSO, as well as Sergeant Issa Oladayinbo of the Nigeria police. The two other persons are Oladesu Adele and Solomon Oyadele, who were found guilty of conspiracy in corrupt enrichment by accepting 120,000 naira from Olalere Femiale of the National Youth Service Corps while investigating the assets of the officer. In addition to the sentence, Samuel Soyemi will refund 30,000 naira while Fafasi Nyewa will pay back 5,000. Oladesu Adele is to refund 35,000 naira and Solomon Oyadele 20,000 naira.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

President Pardons Former Minister Carlos Graca

AB080938 Paris AFP in English 0738 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Lisbon, Jan 8 (AFP) — Former Sao Tome and Principe Health Minister Carlos Graca, who was sentenced in absentia to 24 years in prison in 1979 for treason, has been pardoned by the West African island state's president, Manuel Pinta da Costa, the country's embassy announced here Monday. But a spokesman said the pardon, granted on January 2, did not exempt Mr Graca, who fled to neighbouring Gabon in 1978, from civil responsibility for his alleged crimes.

TOGO

Chadian Minister Brings Habre Message to Eyadema

AB080756 Lome Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] A special envoy of Chadian President Hissein Habre this morning was received by General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People. The envoy, Lassou Gouara, Chadian minister of foreign affairs, who led a delegation, brought a message from President Hissein Habre to President Eyadema.

After the audience the founding chairman granted to the Chadian delegation, Minister Gouara disclosed to reporters that he came to brief President Eyadema on the situation currently prevailing in his country after the Franco-Libyan disengagement agreement. On this subject, the head of Chadian diplomacy stated that contrary to France, Libya did not respect the agreement [words indistinct]. Mr Gouara even referred to the possibility of an imminent attack by Libyan troops against the Ndjamena forces in northern Chad.

On efforts by President Hissein Habre to restore peace to Chad, the Chadian foreign minister spoke of a forthcoming round-table conference, Brazzaville II, which was suggested during the recent French-African summit meeting at Bujumbura following the failure of Brazzaville I.

ANGOLA

ANGOP Discusses Upcoming Party Conference

MB071717 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 7 Jan 85

[ANGOP commentary: "How To Make Our Party More Cohesive and Strong"]

[Text] The opening in Luanda of the first national party conference has been set for 14 January. Here MPLA militants from all over the country will meet to critically analyze the problems connected with strengthening the leading role of the party, the political and ideological education of their members, control over the state organization, the political work within the defense and security bodies, and so forth.

The first national party conference should analyze the study of the [words indistinct] in the current political, economic, and social situation. The documents that will be discussed will be thoroughly studied by everybody, and from them realistic plans should be drawn up.

Every party member has the responsibility of actively working and participating so that solutions for the difficult economic situation will be reached at the conference, without forgetting the other aspects of national life, particularly the social conditions of the working masses. The MPLA-Labor Party is the leading force of the Angolan nation and its existence is substantiated in the final analysis by the defense of the interest of workers and peasants.

The economic problems that the People's Republic of Angola is facing are due to the war, which is imposed upon us by imperialism, or by other internal factors, such as indolence, idleness, squandering, theft of state assets, and the uncontrolled bureaucracy, which are deeply affecting our society. To deny this fact is to ignore Angolan reality.

The first national party conference is of utmost importance because, as noted by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, it will make an exhaustive study of the work done since the extraordinary congress held in 1980, not only on the internal affairs of the party, but also the activity of the state and of the social mass organizations.

The party conference will also draw up the general guidelines that will guide the preparation of the 2d ordinary party congress. However, the holding of the party conference and other similar activities are not the exclusive work of the party members, but also of the people. In the factories, fields, offices, and Army barracks, all citizens should participate, either by increasing production or by stepping up vigilance, thus implementing the guidelines of our party.

The first national party conference also has the responsibilty of analyzing the development of its components with the aim of attracting new members who would be able to assist in the fulfillment of the targets established by the revolution in the Neto fatherland. Only a few days before the opening of the party conference, all Angolans without fail should increase production and popular vigilance, because, as our supreme leader said on 1 January 1985, we know we have to march a long and difficult path until we can overcome all obstacles which hinder our struggle for the improvement of the living standards of the working people. We must continue to make efforts and sacrifices until we achieve our objectives.

FAPLA Chief of Staff Visits Kafunfo Area

MB080715 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Colonel Antonio dos Santos Franca, the Chief of General Staff of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], who is visiting Luanda North Province, yesterday visited the Kafunfo mining sector, in the municipality of Cuango, in order to inspect the military situation in the area.

Colonel (Lobos de Kafunda), chairman of the regional military council of the 9th region, accompanied the chief of general staff of the Armed Forces during this visit.

Congo Minister Cites Support for Free Namibia

MB070835 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Ossebi Douniam, the Congolese minister of fisheries, who is on a working visit to our country, yesterday said in Namibe that the People's Republic of the Congo actively supports UN Security Council Resolution No 435/78 on Namibia's independence. During an interview he gave to the media at the end of a 3-day visit to Namibe, Ossebi Douniam stated that the independence of Namibia — a territory which is illegally occupied by Pretoria's racist regime — constitutes a major step toward peace in southern Africa and in Africa as a whole.

As proof of the solidarity of the People's Republic of the Congo with the just struggle of the Namibian people, Ossebi Douniam recalled that his country is keeping Namibian refugees in its territory, and that the Congolese radio has given air time to SWAPO broadcasts for a number of years.

The Congolese minister of fisheries, who was accompanied by his Angolan counterpart, Emilio Guerra de Carvalho, visited some fishing and salt production enterprises.

Envoy to Gabon on Fighting, Talks With UNITA

AB041854 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Interview with Ambassador to Gabon Dombele Bernardo by unidentified reporter; place and date not given — live or recorded]

[Text] [Bernardo] On the field, the situation is under control, by, as usual, the valiant fighters of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FAPLA. The puppet UNITA bands have for a long time lost hope in their actions. Conscious of their despair, they only content themselves with sabotaging the

achievements of our revolution. All the UNITA bands are doing is trying to destroy the infrastructure of the People's Republic of Angola, that is, all that the MPLA has put at the service of the Angolan people and for their happiness. You will surely agree with me that he who destroys in order to sow unhappiness among the people and kills them is not their friend. This is exactly what UNITA has been doing. I think this is very well known because international public opinion talks, that is, about these assassinations by UNITA.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, taking into account UNITA's present military pressure, is Luanda prepared to negotiate with Jonas Savimbi's movement?

[Bernardo] As you know, in his end of year message, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the People's Republic of Angola, clearly stated that there would never be any negotiation between Angola and the enemy of the Angolan people.

[Reporter] Finally, what will be the solution to this war?

[Bernardo] The solution has already been found by the Angolan people; that is to say, we do not consider the existence of UNITA.

More Than 4,000 UNITA Members Killed in 1984

MB060831 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] About 4,000 UNITA bandits were annihilated by the national defense and security forces last year in Huambo, Bie, and Benguela Provinces.

In Huambo and Bie Provinces, which form the 4th military region, more than 3,000 criminals were killed and others deserted UNITA. Statistics indicate that over the past 3 months of last year alone, over 300 bandits of the puppet gang gave themselves up to our authorities. The UNITA members surrendered along with members of the public who had been forced to go into the bush. At present, the Cuambo mission camp for the displaced is sheltering 2,200 members of the public who are struggling to recover physically so that each can contribute to national reconstruction.

In Benguela, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] inflicted 983 confirmed losses on the enemy and also seized various pieces of equipment and captured a large number of counterrevolutionaries. According to a statement by Benguela provincial commissioner Kundi Payama in his new year message to troops stationed in the province, during 1984 the FAPLA forces destroyed various camps and hideouts of the puppet gangs. Kundi Payama then said that 2,023 huts throughout the province used by the puppets for various criminals acts were destroyed.

The Benguela provincial commissioner said that during last year, about 1,090 persons who were under the control of the puppet gangs in the bush were freed by our armed forces. He further said that more than 720 Angolans who belonged to the puppet gang were given amnesty. In short, the official concluded, in 1984 our forces won many victories over the enemy.

According to the secretary for defense and security of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, the puppet gangs suffered most severely last year.

UNITA Claims 18 Cubans, 236 Angolan Troops Killed

PA081218 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0511 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Lisbon, 7 Jan (EFE) — A total of 18 Cuban soldiers and 236 Angolans were killed as a result of guerrilla actions by UNITA in Angola between 22 and 29 December, it was reported in Lisbon today.

According to a UNITA communique, four of the Cubans killed by the rebels were defending the garrison in Cotato, 320 km from the southern city of Lubango.

Other guerrilla actions for which UNITA claimed credit include an attack on Kaiongo, in the northern province of Uige, in which 33 regular Army troops were killed, and on Lepi, 32 km from the central city of Huambo, in which another 32 Angolans soldiers were killed.

During the guerrilla offensive, UNITA claimed that it sustained only 15 casualties.

Briefs

New Envoy to Zaire Comrade Miguel Gaspar Neto, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Angola to the Republic of Zaire, this morning presented his credentials to Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, president of Zaire. The ceremony took place at the residence of the Zairian president in Kinshasa and was attended by Umba di Lutete, Zairian state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, the chief of the Cabinet of the Zairian president, and some officials of our embassy. It should be recalled that Comrade Miguel Gaspar Neto is the second Angolan ambassador to be accredited to Zaire after the establishment of diplomatic relations with that neighboring country. [Text] [*Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 5 Jan 85 MB*]

BOTSWANA

BPU Leader Unconcerned by Vice President's Resignation

MB080855 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The leader of the Botswana Progressive Union [BPU], Mr Daniel Kwele, has said that the joining of the Botswana National Front [BNF] by the BPU's former vice president, Mr D.P. Koloi, at the weekend was no loss to his party because the struggle was the same. Mr Kwele told BOPA [BOTSWANA PRESS AGENCY] in an interview in Francistown yesterday that it was obvious that the BNF victory in Gaborone South, like any other victory, was bound to attract a lot of people to join the BNF.

The BPU leader said he was convinced that the victory of his party in the future was also likely to attract back those who believe in victory. He said the resignation of Mr Koloi from the BPU does not make it difficult for the party to replace him as vice president.

LESOTHO

Envoy Denies Kenyan Charges of Collaboration With RSA

MB071850 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The high commission of the Kingdom of Lesotho in Nairobi has denied that Lesotho was among collaborators with South Africa to break the international sports boycott. The high commissioner was reacting to a report which appeared in the 23 December edition of the *Sunday Standard* newspaper of Nairobi. He further complained that at no time has Lesotho ever, and will never coopt any South African women or men to undermine the efforts of the international community to boycott apartheid sport.

The statement also said that Lesotho has recorded a number of athletes of international class who work in South African mines, like thousands of other Basotho nationals. It said that not a single one had ever been a citizen of the racist regime, which does not offer citizenship to alien blacks as a matter of racist creed and policy.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Meets With Security Council Envoys on Nkomati

MB080804 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] President Samora Machel has told the media that the ambassadors and representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council were able to reach a common ground and a positive outlook in a meeting yesterday afternoon. No final communique was issued at the end of the meeting, which lasted for more than 2 hours. The meeting was attended by the ambassadors of China, the United States, France, Great Britain, and the charge d'affairs of the USSR, in addition to the Czechoslovakian ambassador, who is the dean of the diplomatic corps accredited to Maputo.

The meeting was to assess the situation in southern Africa, particularly in Mozambique, after the signing of the Nkomati Accord. The participants agreed that the Nkomati Accord is not being fully implemented to the spirit and letter, but that Mozambique is fulfilling it as a whole, President Samora Machel said.

Displaying a fine humor, President Samora Machel invited the ambassadors to toast to what they had agreed upon: stability, peace, and progress. Addressing in particular the U.S., French, and British ambassadors, the Mozambican head of state asked them not to assess southern Africa from the standpoint of the East-West conflict. Take your East-West problems away from here, President Samora Machel said. He added that these three western members of the Security Council have a good knowledge of the armed bandit problem in southern Africa.

Referring in particular to the historic presence of Great Britain in southern Africa, President Samora Machel said, in the context of Mozambique, "we are an island." Then he went on to mention all Mozambique's neighboring nations which were former British colonies. Turning to France, Samora Machel said that the Portuguese were culturally colonized by the French, and that they know western Africa very well. Referring to the United States, President Samora Machel said it is slightly off base. He concluded by saying that the three powers have a historic and anthropological knowledge of Africa and thus understand well the armed bandit problem.

Renamo Says Zimbabwe Troops Killed in Pipeline Attack

PA041934 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1610 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Lisbon, 4 Jan (EFE) — Fifteen Zimbabwean soldiers were killed in Mozambique during an attack carried out by the Renamo (Mozambique National Resistance) rebel guerrillas on the pipeline that links Port Beira on the Indian Ocean with Zimbabwean territory, according to reports received in Lisbon today.

A Renamo source told EFE that the attack took place on 25 December in Inchope, an important network of highways in the center of Mozambique, 120 km west of Beira.

The Renamo action also resulted in the death of 25 soldiers from the regular troops of the Maputo government, the organization stated.

According to the same source, the Zimbabwean troops formed part of a 3,000 man force that supports the Mozambican Armed Forces in the defense of the pipeline, one of the main channels of oil supply to the former British colony.

The attack on Inchope, Renamo said, has been one of several guerrilla offensives called "Operation Christmas" that have taken place in the Provinces of Sofala (Central), Inhambane, Gaza, and Maputo (South), in which 471 government soldiers were killed.

The rebels state that during the same offensives they seized 47 military "enemies" and that they suffered 19 casualties.

NAMIBIA

Senator Kennedy's Proposed Itinerary Criticized

MB071325 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Senator Edward Kennedy's visit to Namibia later this week has aroused a storm of controversy. Gwen Lister reports from Windhoek.

[Lister] Invited by the Catholic Church, with the emphasis on the human rights situation in Namibia, his visit will be extremely brief, and the senator will meet on Saturday only with prominent members of the Council of Churches, as well as the SWAPO representative.

The mouthpiece of the Multiparty Conference has strongly criticized the visit, both because of its brevity and because Senator Kennedy will not be meeting other political leaders. The senator may also meet Andimba Toivo ja Toivo, long-term political prisoner and now secretary general of SWAPO.

The meetings between church leaders and Senator Kennedy will take place in the black town of Katutura, just outside of Windhoek, and he will not see the administrator-general, Dr Willie van Niekerk.

Captured SWAPO Officer Cites Confusion in Ranks

MB080706 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] A former commanding officer of SWAPO's mobile combat group in Kavango, George (Akushinda), says there is much confusion among SWAPO ranks in this area. (Akushinda) was arrested by the security forces in November of last year. He said in an interview that SWAPO terrorists were not getting the expected cooperation from local residents because action by the security forces in seeking to improve the standard of living of the inhabitants led to the movements of the terrorist group being reported regularly.

The commanding officer of Sector 20 at Undlu, Col (Dion Ferreira), said the security forces were prepared for any planned incursion by SWAPO during the coming rainy season. He said only about 20 SWAPO terrorists were active in Kavango compared with 100 in June of last year.

SOUTH AFRICA

Umtata Says MNR Official Arrives for Talks

MB080844 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] A Mozambican rebel leader has arrived in South Africa to discuss the possibility of resuming talks with the Mozambique Government. An official of the Mozambique National Resistance Movement [MNR], Jorge Coreia, has said in Lisbon, Portugal, that the South African Government, which sponsored the talks, invited MNR General Secretary Evo Fernandes. He said Fernandes is to meet with South African officials, but no contact with Mozambican representatives is envisaged.

Fernandes broke off the talks last November after they had gone on for a month, saying the Maputo Government lacked good faith.

STAR Discusses Nkomati, Mozambican Resistance

MB071510 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 Dec 84 p 16

[Editorial: "Nine Months on: The Nkomati Discord?"]

[Text] The Nkomati Accord is just over nine months old, and not a great deal is left of the goodwill amid which it was signed. Relations between Pretoria and Maputo have taken a battering with President Machel's assertion that the South African Government continues "to sustain, develop, equip, infiltrate and supply" the MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] rebels.

Central to the accord were mutual undertaking to curb rebel activities. On the Mozambican side, there were soon many indications of a clampdown on the ANC. The MNR guerrilla warfare, however, did not cease but rather seemed to increase in boldness and intensity. Over the year accusations grew that South Africa was not honouring its side of the bargain.

Mr Machel's latest charges against Pretoria are categoric. Are they prompted by genuine belief, or do they reflect the need to find a scapegoat for his own severe internal problems? What does make the MNR run? South Africa says it has done everything possible to curb the movement's activities, including the staging of recent abortive peace talks in Pretoria. The MNR claims that since Nkomati it has developed independent sources of arms and new supply routes and has a significant popular following inside Mozambique.

Could clandestine support continue from South African sources beyond the control of the Government? This might conceivably come from influential right-wing elements with an interest in wrecking Nkomati, but the suggestion seems improbable. If South Africa is playing an elaborate double game, both in Mozambique and Angola, what does it stand to gain? Extracting what benefits it can from talking peace, perhaps, while still keeping them militarily on their knees?

This cynical tactic of destabilisation might prove highly effective in the short term. In the longer term, it could be counter-productive. It increases mistrust, harms South African credibility and may push our neighbours towards the opposite extreme of reliance on the East.

SOWETAN Criticizes Nkomati Accord, ANC Talks

MB071517 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 28 Dec 84 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] It was a fine business President Samora Machel got his country into when he impetuously paraded in that friendly exercise with South Africa, and signed a peace accord before, so to speak, reading the small print.

Now he is landed in a no-win situation, particularly as Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] seems to be increasing its terror tactics in his country. It seems also rather difficult to appeal to South Africa, hence the latest reports that Machel is now blaming his "friendly" neighbour for supporting Renamo.

There are also curious rumours from Mozambique that certain South African rightwing elements are supporting the resistance movement, rumours that might prima facie make a good cause, but are extraordinarily difficult to prove. We are afraid much as we would like to sympathise with Machel and his people, they blew it. They signed a treaty that effectively got the ANC out of their country, while Renamo was left to carry on with increased intensity its terror to destabilise that country.

The saddest part of this whole business is that Mozambique will not be able to call on help or sympathy from other black or neighbouring countries — not after the Nkomati Accord.

What is perhaps of more interest is what the intentions of Renamo are and what that movement finally wishes to achieve. It seems obvious that even if they succeeded in overthrowing the Frelimo government, they would not stop hostilities in that part of the southern region and for all of us.

The trouble is that, instead of the Nkomati Accord moving this part of Africa towards peace, it unerringly seems to be leading to even greater disaster. That is the trouble in going into political pacts that have no moral justification.

What is likely to happen to the other parts of the equation is perhaps a good question to ask. The first thing that strikes us is that if South Africa is, or even if she is not helping Renamo, the chances of her signing more accords with more black states are receding.

Any other black state in the region that falls into this trap will need to have its head examined. Which brings us to the most topical point of all.

All this business of South Africa speaking to the African National Congress rings distinctly hollow in our ears. In fact the ANC would be plain silly to do anything of the sort.

The ANC would have sold out just as Mozambique did; sold out on the millions of black South Africans who should be spoken to first. The ANC will find itself in exactly the same boat as Machel after speaking to its heart's content with this government, and you will notice that those who are actively encouraging this are either politically suspect or straight forward rightwingers.

So the lessons from Mozambique are pretty bitter but they should be carefully studied. South Africa, if we had any hope in our country, should have kept or seen to be keeping her side of the deal with Mozambique, at least more aggressively.

Johannesburg Radio Says ANC Negotiations Impossible

MB080932 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Station Commentary: "Negotiating with the ANC"]

[Text] In a state professing democratic ideals, negotiation is by definition the characteristic means of resolving political disputes. Inversely, the democratic principle excludes from participation and negotiation those groups which reject the peace consensus and espouse violence as a means for achieving political ends. In effect, those who use violence as a political instrument define themselves out of the policy-influencing debate.

Stated like that in general terms, the proposition is self-evident. It is curious that it should be so easily lost sight of when every so often attention turns to the role of the ANC in South African politics, and at such times, the recommendation invariably surfaces a view that the state negotiate to try to reach an accommodation with the ANC. In fact, such calls ignore the democratic imperatives with which they are concerned.

Negotiation as a problem-solving approach is an indispensable mechanism in social affairs and above all in politics. Especially for a country with such a complex population mix as South Africa has, it is the only approach to resolving differences between clashing interest groups that can ensure equitable and stable solutions. That is widely recognized these days. The new Constitution, for example, has been designed so that negotiation and consensus-building will be the essential mode of lawmaking. Investigations on legal and social issues, the constitutional position of urban blacks, influx control, mixed marriages, and much else, take as their starting point the need to hear and, as far as possible, reconcile the demands of all sides.

Indeed, the spirit of negotiation infuses the approach of settling disputes in virtually every area of South African society today. But the negotiating process obviously takes place within a certain conceptual framework. It assumes a joint commitment by the parties to a mutually beneficial solution, and therefore a recognition of one another's legitimate rights and demands. Most important, it assumes a joint commitment to peaceful debate and a constitutional ordering of society. That commitment does not exist in the leadership of the ANC.

On the contrary, the avowed purpose of the ANC, and the feature that more than any other distinguishes it in the South African political scene, is to create a revolution to achieve its political goals through violence. The ideology of the ANC is the antithesis of democracy, and its methods make a mockery of negotiation as a democratic concept. As long as the organization continues to regard violence and terror as valid means of political persuasion, the talk of negotiating with it is a contradiction in terms.

SWAPO, PFP Meet 'Informally' in Cape Town

MB080704 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] A Cape Town report says representatives of the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] and SWAPO have held informal talks in the city. One of the PFP representatives, a member of Parliament, Mr Colin Eglin, described the talks as an information gathering exercise. The other PFP representative was the party's federal executive chairman, Dr (Alex Barraine). The SWAPO representative was Mr Anton (Lubovsky) of Windhoek.

Further on Talks

MB0080850 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] SWAPO and the opposition Progressive Federal Party [PFP] of South Africa have emphasized the need for a speedy end to the South-West Africa/Namibian independence impasse, following what is believed to be the first public meeting of the two parties in this country.

The meeting in Cape Town was attended by the PFP senior spokesman of foreign affairs, Mr Colin Eglin, and one of the first whites to publicly declare his SWAPO membership, Mr Anton (Lubovsky). Mr Eglin said the talks have served to reinforce the view obtained from a variety of Namibians that there are mounting frustrations over delay in independence for the territory.

R.F. Botha Holds Talks UK Parliamentarian Chalfont

MB071231 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, held talks in Pretoria this morning with two foreign parliamentarians, Lord Chalfont of Britain and Senator Edward Kennedy of the United States.

Lord Chalfont and Mr Botha discussed ways of improving South Africa's political image overseas in areas other than sport.

Lord Chalfont said the purpose of his visit was to assess the prospects for peaceful change in South Africa. He said that it was apparent from his talks with Mr Botha that positive change was not only unavoidable, but that it was being speeded up.

R.F. Botha Discusses Kennedy Talks; Chalfont Comments

MB072030 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Mr Pik Botha, the minister of foreign affairs, held talks in Pretoria today with Senator Edward Kennedy of America and Lord Chalfont of Britain. Both Senator Kennedy and Lord Chalfont are in the country on fact-finding visits.

[Begin Video] [Unidentified reporter] The only thing the two parliamentarins who visited Mr Botha this morning have in common is their criticism of South Africa, but their approaches and their results differed vastly. The talks between Mr Botha and Senator Kennedy lasted for about 1 and 1/2 hours. Thereafter, they posed for a brief photo session. Senator Kennedy left immediately after that in his car without giving his impressions of the discussions. This was left to Mr Botha.

[Botha] It is clear that there are many issues on which we do not agree. He was interested in the situation in South-West Africa/Namibia and Angola, and we discussed these briefly.

[First reporter] Sir, he is visiting several places in the country, such as, for example, resettlement camps, hostels in Soweto, and so forth. Did you make any offers for him to see any other places?

[Botha] No, we are not responsible for his itinerary.

[Second reporter, in English] Did you discuss disinvestment?

[Botha, in English] Perhaps not directly, but in general I think what he referred to was disinvestment, in the sense that I think he was explaining to me why there is a group on Capitol Hill in favor of disinvestment.

[Second reporter, in English] Is he amongst them?

[Botha, in English] He did not say so in so many words.

[Third reporter, in English] Minister, would you say you reached any common ground in the discussions this morning, or was it all a matter of differences?

[Botha, in English] The purpose of such discussions is certainly not to reach common ground. I think, in any case, it would be naive to expect me and Senator Kennedy ever to reach common ground. He cannot even reach common ground with the Republicans in the United States, and the Republicans are to the left of us. So let us just be realistic about this.

[Reporter] This morning's meeting left a bad impression among newsmen when media officials in the Kennedy entourage raised their ire by doing all in their power to prevent media coverage of the senator's visit with Mr Botha. Representatives of the media exchanged words with the Kennedy officials when it appeared that they wanted to avoid having Senator Kennedy photographed with Mr Botha. The senator himself did not want to leave his car when he spotted a group of press photographers who happened to be present for the meeting before that between Mr Botha and Lord Chalfont. The photographers had to undertake not to take pictures, and only then did Senator Kennedy leave his vehicle. Only after further requests by the newsmen was a brief photo session granted them. Senator Kennedy's action this morning, and the unwillingness of his staff to provide acceptable reasons, was in sharp contrast to the approach in Soweto yesterday and later this afternoon at two black areas, where maximum media coverage was encouraged.

But Lord Chalfont did not hesitate to give his impressions of his talks with Mr Botha.

[Chalfont, in English] There are number of people aboard whose aim it is to bring about political change in South Africa, and their only interest in sport is to use it as a weapon for doing that. So what I am trying to find out now is what are the prospects for political change, especially in some of the anti-apartheid legislation in South Africa itself.

[Unidentified reporter, in English] And what were you told?

[Chalfont, in English] Well, I obviously cannot tell you what the minister told me. You would have to ask him that. But what I have discovered in the course of my visit here, meeting the

minister and various other people, is that the chances of political change are good, that indeed certain political changes are imperative, and that they will undoubtedly happen, but that obviously the government has to consider the opinion of all political parties and political elements in South Africa and, as most of us who know South Africa reasonably well realize, this is not going to be done overnight. It is a complicated process, it has got to be done gradually, otherwise interests inside South Africa and outside are likely to be aroused, and hostility is likely to be aroused. But I get the impression that change is not only inevitable but accelerating. [end video]

Johannesburg: Kennedy Trip to RSA Political
MB041241 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Station commentary: "The Visit to South Africa of Senator Kennedy"]

[Text] Few commentators in American politics would dispute that Senator Edward Kennedy's visit to South Africa in the coming week has more to do with his presidential aspirations than with the situation in this country. It is from that perspective that many South Africans will be observing the whistle-stop tour of the senior senator from Massachusetts.

Mr Kennedy has already made it clear that his tour, on which he will be accompanied by the usual swarm of specially appointed media men, will be a campaigning one, certainly not one from which he plans to learn anything about South Africa's socio-political problems or what is being done about them.

For South Africans, of course, that is unfortunate. Judging by his statements so far, they regard him as singularly uninformed about their situation and evidently content with -- as substitute for knowledge and insight -- purveying the slogans of the left. That view is held in influential American political circles as well. Dr Chester Crocker, the assistant secretary of state for Africa, recently commented on a lengthy criticism of constructive engagement by Senator Kennedy with the words: Our policy is sometimes misdescribed by people who have not bothered to read what we have been doing for the past 4 years.

But what concerns South Africans is probably the last thing on Senator Kennedy's mind right now. Having lost a nomination contest to an obviously unpopular President Carter, he wisely bowed out of the nomination battle to face up to President Reagan this time. The result was that all the other possible candidates have been largely discredited, leaving Mr Kennedy a clear front-runner as the Democratic Party's candidate for the 1988 election.

Be that as it may, Mr Kennedy is emulating Mr Mondale before him and launching his campaign early. He is also following the same course in establishing an image for himself as the liberal conscience of American politics, the man who cares for the poor, the aged, the downtrodden.

To the outsider, it may seem an ironic course to adopt for a man whose own election campaigns are notorious for the immense fortunes -- even by American standards -- that are spent on (?swamping) his opponents to get him reelected. But Senator Kennedy's wealthy family connections can usually take care of that as well. The remarkably prominent and consistently favorable attention he gets from much of the American media is just another spin-off benefit of membership of the Kennedy clan.

But another, and, in terms of political muscle, more important benefit, is derived from the strong political organization that he and his family have built up throughout the United States. If only for that reason, Senator Kennedy is a politician with power, and South Africa can expect that he will use that power in the coming week and the months thereafter to its detriment.

Tutu Comments on Divisions in RSA Communities
MB060730 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Excerpts] United States Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy has arrived in South Africa in a blaze of drama and controversy. He arrived at Jan Smuts Airport yesterday evening and told a crowd of people awaiting his arrival that he had come to South Africa to get a first hand view of the situation in the country.

The senator has been invited by the South African Council of Churches. One of his hosts, Nobel Peace Prize winner Bishop Desmond Tutu, said he wanted Kennedy to see for himself a land which had been divided by apartheid.

[Begin Tutu recording] Not a single one of our communities is intact. You speak of the Indian community; it is rent down the middle. You speak of the so-called Colored community; it is rent down the middle. You speak of the Afrikaaner community which used to be thought of as a community that was monolithic, and that too is torn apart. And the English community is one that is torn apart. The community from which I come is one too that is divided. [end recording]

PIP, NPP To Cooperate in House of Delegates
MB051153 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] Leader of the Progressive Independent Party [PIP], Mr Faiz Khan, has announced that the party has signed a working agreement with Mr Armichand Rajbansi's National People's Party, NPP, with the view to cooperation in the House of Delegates.

Mr Khan said after meeting with his party's executive in Johannesburg that the agreement would produce results in the interests of the community.

Political observers feel that the move has divided the house into two distinct opposition camps. The NPP with its 27 members now has an absolute majority over Solidarity's 16 members.

ZIMBABWE

Sithole Denies Contact With U.S. Government

MB071827 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 7 Jan 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Emmerson Munangagwa, Zimbabwe's minister of state for security, has made a startling accusation against the veteran nationalist politician, the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole. He has accused Mr Sithole of plotting to overthrow the government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe while the country prepares for elections later this year. Mr Munangagwa claims to have in his possession letters written by Mr Sithole to the American Government asking for sophisticated weaponry to help in his plot against the Zimbabwe Government. Mr Sithole has been in London for some time. Julian Marshal asked him what he made of the accusation.

[Begin recording] [Sithole] Well, it is all nonsense, utter rubbish. I think what is happening with Munangagwa is that he is now afraid of even his own shadow. They would like to get rid of me, so that I don't go back home and contest the election. They have been doing that several times. The whole exercise really is as much as to say: Don't come back home, we shall detain you. That is what he is saying to the world: Sithole mustn't come back or else we shall detain you.

[Marshall] Have you in fact had any contact with the American Government since you left Zimbabwe?

[Sithole] No, I have not had any contact at all.

[Marshal] But it does seem to be a very specific accusation, not simply accusing you of trying to overthrow the government, but soliciting the Americans for arms.

[Sithole] No, I have not done anything of the sort. I have written out our own literature which is being sent to everybody, just as we are sending to organizations in Britain, in the United States, and elsewhere.

[Marshal] And what about this documentary evidence that he said he had?

[Sithole] Well, he has to produce it to be believed. I think it is in his own mind, that is all.

[Marshal] Now you say that you suspect that his intention is to deter you from returning to Zimbabwe. Will it have any effect?

[Sithole] No, it won't have any effect at all. I will go back home toward the elections.

[Marshal] So, you are intending to contest the elections?

[Sithole] For sure, I am.

[Marshal] And how do you rate your party's chances of success in this election?

[Sithole] I think the chances are very high. ZANU-PF has lost its popularity with the people and that is why they do so much intimidating of the whole population across the country, and this is why they are cooking more and more charges, imaginary charges, against their rivals. At one stage it was Nkomo who wanted to overthrow the government, now it is Sithole who wants to overthrow the government. Anyone they are afraid of they think likes to overthrow them. For instance, I am utterly opposed to a one-party state. Therefore, I must be detained. I am utterly opposed to a socialist government in Zimbabwe, and therefore they feel I should be detained. Anyone who opposes them strongly is an enemy.

[Marshal] Is your party still intact within Zimbabwe? After all, you have been away for quite some time.

[Sithole] Yes, it is intact. We have our own members of the central committee there.

[Marshal] And what has kept you away for this length of time from Zimbabwe?

[Sithole] Well, it is this fact that they threaten to detain me, just as they did with Bishop Muzorewa. He was detained for 10 months without any excuse whatsoever.

[Marshal] But despite this threat you still feel confident that you could return and engage in full political activity?

[Sithole] Yes, I am going to go back to Zimbabwe toward the elections. [end recording]

HERALD Cites 'Contradiction' in U.S. Attitude

MB071917 Harare THE HERALD in English 27 Dec 84 p 4

[Editorial: "The Clucking Noises"]

[Text] That United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Dr Chester Crocker can roundly condemn apartheid in one breath but refuse in the next to commit U.S. support to one-man-one-vote in that unhappy land should come as no surprise.

The contradiction is typical of the attitude not only of the U.S. but of so many other leading nations enjoying cosy economic relations with South Africa.

No, said Dr Crocker at his pre-Christmas press briefing in Washington, it was up to South Africans to shape and negotiate their own blueprint for the future — "and we feel very strongly about that".

Presumably Dr Crocker was talking about all South Africans. But having shown no past willingness to give blacks a say in their own future why should South Africa suddenly have a radical change of heart now?

Hardly likely. Even Dr Crocker rejects the cosmetic changes to the constitution admitting Asians and Coloureds to the parliamentary process as failing to address main issues.

And any likelihood of change becomes even more remote while the United States continues to refuse to bring any meaningful economic pressure to bear on South Africa. The U.S. shows few qualms about employing sanctions against other regimes earning its displeasure.

Clearly the U.S., both out of economic considerations and ongoing obsession with communism, has no wish to rock the boat. Much easier to stick to the soft option of constructive engagement and make Crocker-style clucking noises about apartheid than do anything really constructive to force South Africa to abandon the evil.

UK's Howe Holds Talks With Mugabe, Foreign Minister

MB071320 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 7 Jan 84

[Text] The visiting British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, held separate talks with the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and the foreign minister, Comrade Witness Mangwende, this morning. Comrade Mangwende told Sir Geoffrey that he hopes the good relations between Zimbabwe and Britain will continue. Sir Geoffrey replied that his country wishes Zimbabwe success in all its programs. He said he had been impressed by the high standard of farming on the commercial and communal farms which he visited at the weekend. He said with these very efficient farming standards he is not surprised Zimbabwe has weathered 3 years of drought. One of the major issues likely to have been discussed is the independence question of Namibia.

Sir Geoffrey, who arrived in the capital on Saturday, leaves for the Zambian capital, Lusaka, tomorrow, and then for Kenya. This afternoon he will pay a courtesy call on the president, Comrade Canaan Banana.

Namibian Linkage Rejected

MB071847 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Zimbabwe and Britain have once again rejected the linkage between Namibia's independence and the withdrawal of Cuban forces from the People's Republic of Angola. The commitment was expressed by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, and the visiting British foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, at a luncheon in Harare today.

The two countries also agreed that Namibia's independence should be achieved within the parameters of the UN Resolution 435, which called for a cease-fire and internationally supervised elections in Namibia.

Comrade Mangwende urged Britain to use its influence to get South Africa to negotiate freely on the Namibian issue. He also urged Britain to use its influence on the Pretoria's regime's destabilizing (?its neighbors), and to abandon its apartheid policies.

The minister also briefed the British foreign secretary on the activities of South African-sponsored bandits in Zimbabwe. Sir Geoffrey, who arrived in Zimbabwe on Saturday, also paid a courtesy call on the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, at State House. He leaves Harare for Lusaka (?tomorrow).

Howe Concludes Visit

MB081250 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The British Government respects Zimbabwe as a sovereign state, and will not interfere in the country's internal affairs, the visiting British foreign minister, Sir Geoffrey Howe, said today. He told a news conference shortly before departure for Zambia that Zimbabwe and Britain regard each other as sovereign states and should not meddle in each others affairs. Asked what his comments are on a statement by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, last night criticizing the Lancaster drafted constitution, Mr Howe said the British Government had no further role on the Zimbabwean constitution.

He said his visit to Zimbabwe has marked a step in the development of relations between the two countries. Sir Geoffrey Howe, who arrived in the country last Saturday, held talks with the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and other top government ministers. Yesterday, he met the minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, and raised the question of the six tourists kidnapped by dissidents in July 1982. Sir Geoffrey said during the meeting he thanked the Zimbabwean Government for the efforts it is making in tracing the tourists. He also pledged his country's commitment to the resettlement program in Zimbabwe. On Namibia, Sir Geoffrey expressed the hopes that the Security Council Resolution 435 could be implemented as soon as possible.

The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, said the two parties were unanimous on Namibia's independence, although they differed on the modality of achieving that objective.

Home Minister Says Currency Smuggled to RSA

MB050921 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Mubako, says hundreds of millions of dollars have been smuggled from Zimbabwe to South Africa since independence. He told *THE HERALD* yesterday that there is a serious trafficking of currency to South Africa, especially by whites. The minister said a few blacks are also involved in the smuggling of currency. He said that the government is to crack down on anyone suspected of currency smuggling, adding that the police are now aware of the methods used. A number of currency smugglers have already been arrested.